

BAY AREA REPORTER

5th Milk March, Perhaps the Last

Marchers Dwindle Faced with 17 Speakers

by Allen White

Last Sunday night as many as eight thousand people marched silently from the Castro to Civic Center in a tribute to Supervisor Harvey Milk, Mayor George Moscone, and Philippine Senator Benigno Aquino.

The marchers gathered as they have for the last five years on November 27, some in sadness, some in anger, and all with a sense of being a part of history.

At 7:08 the march began. Cleve Jones, as he has done each year, announced through his bullhorn, "Tonight we honor the lives of George Moscone and Harvey Milk." With an honor guard from the F.L.A.G. Corps of the San Francisco Gay Freedom Day Marching Band, the thousands spilled out into Market Street.

At the front of the march were many members of George Moscone's family. From City Hall there were Supervisors Louise Renne, Richard Hongisto, Carol Ruth Silver, and Harry Britt. From the Hall of Justice

there was District Attorney Arlo Smith, Assistant Public Defender Gordon Armstrong, and many Gay and Lesbian Police and Deputy Sheriffs.

Lupita Kashiwahara, the sister of Benigno Aquino, was also in the march. Several hundred Filipinos had joined the crowd to honor the life of Senator Aquino, killed last August at the Manila Airport.

The march slowly moved down Market Street. At 7:35, the front of the march crossed Gough Street. At the same time, the final group was leaving Castro Street. The mood was

calm and strangely quiet in the warm night air.

At Polk Street the line of march turned towards Civic Center. Earlier that day workers had slipped colored gels into all the floodlights. The marchers were greeted with a City Hall dome bathed in blood red. The sight made the building seem distant.

The crowd turning from Market into Polk effectively closed down Market Street. With a deafening yell, thousands at the rear of the march ran to create a wall of people

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3,000 to 5,000 Gay men and Lesbians in couples turned out for the Milk memorial march. (Photo: Rink)

Paper Staffer Dead at 40

Gene Earl who distributed the *Bay Area Reporter* for over a decade in the South and East Bay died Friday morning in Albuquerque, New Mexico.

Earl, 40, succumbed to pneumonia which he battled for over a month after brain surgery.

Earl also worked for years for Lou Greene, printer on Third Street and he lived with Greene in Brisbane.

It was customary for Earl to give over much of his weekends driving to get the *Bay Area Reporter* from Sacramento to Stockton to Modesto to San Jose

to Santa Cruz to Hayward. He would also pick up ads and report on local happenings in the paper's Greater Bay section.

Several years ago Earl was involved in a roadside beating wherein he received severe head wounds. Early in 1983 he began to have trouble with his hearing, his eyesight, and equilibrium. Doctors subsequently diagnosed that there was pressure on the brain and that a small blood clot should be removed. Earl agreed to the surgery and went to his family's home in Albuquerque where his family had contacts with the local hospital. After a long wait, the operation was per-

formed this summer, but Earl never rallied from the operation. Shortly thereafter he contracted pneumonia in both lungs and was kept alive on life support systems. His condition deteriorated to the point that his doctors were saying that even if he did recover, he would have to live with a respirator for the rest of his life.

When Earl left San Francisco this summer for the surgery, he told friends that the proposed operation was nothing to worry about.

He was buried in the National Cemetery in Santa Fe. ■



Ex-employee Timothy Johnson charges Mrs. Fields Cookies with job discrimination. (Photo: Rink)



The Lincoln statue at City Hall — as in past years — serves as focus for the spirit of the Milk assassination march. (Photo: Rink)

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Mrs. Fields' Cookies Sifts Out Gay Worker

Bakers Counsel Says "Not True"

by George Mendenhall

A former manager of Mrs. Fields' Cookies charged in Superior Court this week that Debbie and Randy Fields have made a concentrated effort to eliminate Gay employees from their outlets outside Gay neighborhoods. The firm has 11 stores in San Francisco — one on Castro Street and another on Polk Street.

Timothy Johnson alleges that sometime around May of 1981 — three months after he was hired by Mrs. Fields Cookies — management learned of his Gay sexual orientation. From that time until he quit, he insists that he was harassed and demoted until his work situation became impossible. The full details of Johnson's claim will be heard at trial. His case is being handled by the law firm of Carol Ruth Silver and Arthur Siegel. The 20-page complaint gives this history:

The plaintiff said a district manager falsely accused him of making a verbal sexual advance to an unnamed store manager in mid-1981. Johnson claims the charge was an "intentional at-

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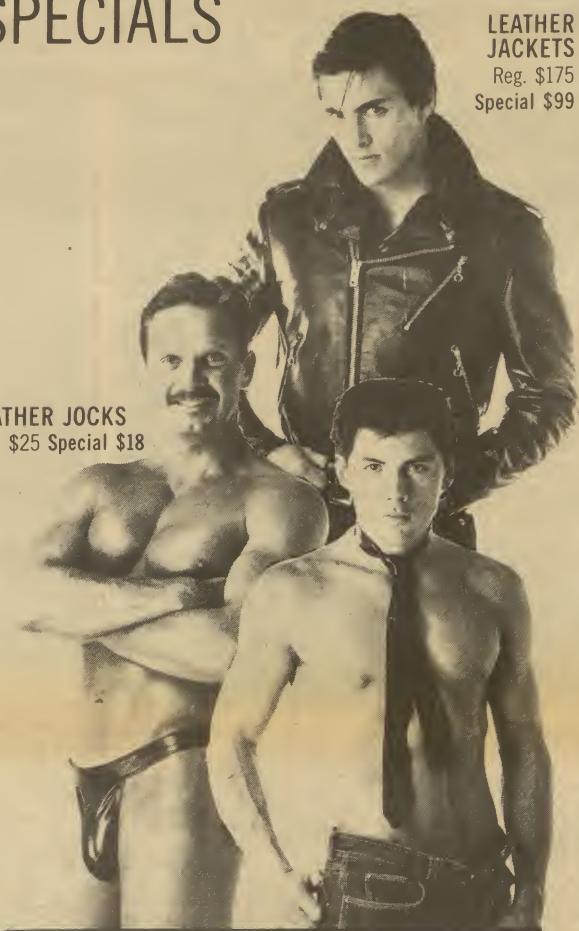
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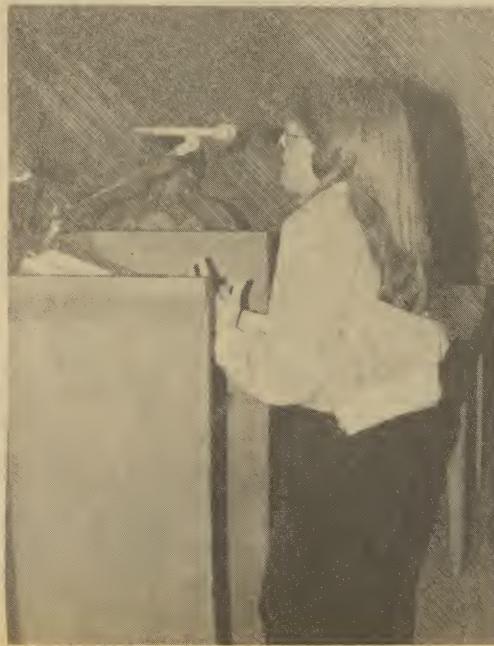
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Commission Winds Up Job Bias Hearings

Low Turnout Mars 2nd Night of Public Testimony

by Paul Lorch

The crowd was disappointingly minute, but feelings ran high in the Human Rights Commission's second and final hearing on hiring discrimination in the Gay community. Eleven people testified between 5:30 and 9:30 p.m. in the State Office Building on McAllister Street Monday, November 21. Six commissioners participated including Phyllis Lyon as Chair and Richard Sevilla. Only two of those who testified owned businesses, Russell Kassman and Hank Wilson.



OC's Debra Kelly told of organization's staff racial mix. (Photo: Rink)

The chief targets of the evening were the San Francisco Tavern Guild and the Golden Gate Business Association. The chief participants of the evening was a contingent from Black and White Men Together (BWMT). After three hours of testimony, no Asians, Latinos, or American Indians in the Gay community were there to testify. Four Blacks testified; the rest were Caucasian.

The lack of attendance was not lost on the Commission. At one point in the proceedings Commissioner Sevilla noted that the lack of participants was a sign that minorities considered the situation hopeless.

The staff of the Human Rights Commission sent out 275 survey forms to Gay/Lesbian businesses in San Francisco. As of the last week in November, only 15 were returned. The list was gleaned from GGBA's membership booklet, the *Gay Yellow Pages*, and other local directories.

Fifteen people testified at the first HRC hearing, November 7. Only one was a Gay bar owner, Toni Macante. Macante told commissioners that she did "not appreciate either government interference or agency interference as to how I am going to run my business." She concluded, "I practice fair practice,

but I don't believe that the government should tell me that I must hire so-and-so."

Last Monday Russell Kassman, founder and owner of the Kassman Piano & Organ stores, was the first speaker. He told the commissioners that he drew upon three sources for his employees: the Gay Employment Service, the Jewish Vocational Service, and an Elderly Employment Service. Kassman employs from 8 to 11 workers (4 in sales, 2 clerical, 2 piano technicians, and 2 delivery persons). He was proud of his ethnic mix which included Jewish refugees from the Soviet Union, Gays, women, and people of color. He was not happy with the candidates he has received from the Gay Employment Service.

The second speaker was Debra Kelly from Operation Concern. Kelly, a handicapped person, disclosed that of the 15 paid OC employees and the 20 volunteers, 40% of them are ethnic minorities. Operation Concern, the Gay mental health clinic on Market Street, has been in operation since 1974. It is supported by public funds, grants, and private donations.

The mike then went to representatives of Black and White Men Together (BWMT). Founder Michael Smith complained that there was an "underemployment of people of color" in the Gay world. He called for training programs to be set up. When HRC Commissioner Morrison commented, "We don't have much power," BWMT spokespersons said there were the possibilities of demonstrations and civil unrest.

They also called on affirmative action programs to be set up by the Tavern Guild and GGBA.

Bay Area Reporter's Dion Sanders complained in his prepared testimony, "I don't believe in using racism as a crutch. I am growing weary of



Russell Kassman, owner of Kassman Piano & Organ, was evening's first witness. (Photo: Rink)

being the only Black Gay writer in the Gay press."

When quizzed by Gay Commissioner Richard Sevilla if his (Sanders') writing for the *Bay Area Reporter* wasn't "a fluke," Sanders reminded the commissioners that he was a journalist with 12 years experience and happened to be the right person at the right time.

Jackie Winnow, HRC staffer and liaison to the Gay Advisory Committee, told the *Bay Area*

Reporter that the testimony is now in the process of being transcribed. The next step is for HRC Chair Phyllis Lyon to appoint a recommendation committee. Winnow looks for a report that both business can work with and also those agitating for affirmative action. She said a report will result from the two nights of hearings. The commission has set March 30 as the deadline for completing its work. ■



Dion Sanders, Bay Area Reporter reporter, testifies at discrimination hearings. (Photo: Rink)

Desert Benefits Raise Nearly \$45,000

UCLA School of Medicine Gets Bulk of \$'s

Nearly \$45,000 was raised to combat AIDS at a series of fundraisers in Palm Springs and other desert communities in recent months. Of the total, \$35,000 was donated to the Division of Clinical Immunology and Allergy, Department of Medicine, at the UCLA School of Medicine.

Nearly \$9,000 was donated to the AIDS Project/Los Angeles, a nonprofit organization that provides services for persons with AIDS, community education and funding for research.

The major fundraiser was a star-studded evening of entertainment at the Hilton Riviera last summer. According to Al Anthony, producer of the show and entertainment director at the Riviera, the total raised is exceeded only by a circus benefit in New York City earlier this year. The next most successful

fundraiser was the San Francisco Debbie Reynolds show at Davies Hall.

"Residents of the desert communities have been extremely generous," said Anthony. "We appreciate their support of this fundraising effort and are optimistic that we can collect another \$6,000 in pledges before the end of the year."

At UCLA, the funds will be used to support a research program aimed at developing new methods for diagnosis and treatment of AIDS. UCLA's Doctor Michael Gottlieb said, "We are deeply grateful to the desert communities for this generous contribution. Private donations of this size allow us to pursue important pilot projects. We appreciate the confidence in our program implicit in this gift and will be increasing our efforts to find solutions to many problems

posed by AIDS."

Dr. Gottlieb is a member of the Board of Directors of the AIDS Project, the other organization that benefited from the fundraisers. The Project began with a hotline last October, and has continued to expand its patient services and community education efforts.

In recent months, the Project has established emergency housing for patients, expanded food services, co-sponsored (with the American Cancer Society) a major public forum on AIDS, and distributed three educational brochures, including a Spanish-language version. The original hotline will soon be expanded to an (800) number serving residents of Southern California.

"Although we have begun to receive some government funding," explained Executive Director Ed Slough, "individual

KGO Weekend Radio

Should San Franciscans take fifteen minutes off from work the day Killer Dan White is released from state prison? The David Lamble Talk Show (KGO-FM/FM 104) tackles this subject this Sunday night. Donald Montwell and Jim Mannes from the Valencia Rose Cafe think that a fifteen minute observance is the least friends of George and Harvey can do to mark the miscarriage of justice that will occur January 6, 1984.

Sunday from 9:05 to 10 PM David's guest will be Theatre Rhino Artistic Director Allan Estes to discuss the theatre's recent spectacular growth. ■

donations make it possible for us to expand our services as the number of AIDS cases continues to increase. We currently work with more than 70 persons with AIDS and greatly appreciate this donation."

Performers at the Riviera

GGBA Holiday Party

Saturday, December 10 GGBA celebrates Christmas. The annual Holiday Extravaganza Party featuring fine food and dancing co-sponsored by the Golden Gate Business Association (GGBA) and Bay Area Career Women (BACW) will be held from 8 PM until 1 AM at The Apparel Mart, 22 Fourth Street.

Tickets for GGBA and BACW members cost \$20, non-member tickets cost \$24. Tickets must be reserved by calling 956-8660 no later than December 8, 1983. ■

fundraiser included Trini Lopez, Mimi Hines, J.P. Morgan, Jim Bailey, Dick Contino, Bobby Hendricks and the Drifters, Richard Deacon, Donalda, Bernie Allan, Edie Williams, the Love Twins, Johnny Fiori, and the Sun-dancers. ■

The New Office of Citizen Complaints

A Visit with Low-key Eugene Swann

by George Mendenhall

Telephone 411 and you will discover there is no listing for the Office of Citizen Complaints under SF Police Department. If you call the Police operator, you will probably get a confused reaction, as they do not have it listed either. When you arrive at the Hall of Justice, you will not discover a listing on the roster in the lobby. If you finally do find the door in a fifth floor hallway, you are in for a pleasant surprise. There it is: OFFICE OF CITIZEN COMPLAINTS.

The new division that voters approved one year ago is functioning with nine investigators working full time to evaluate citizen complaints which allege police misconduct. However, its operation is very low-key with almost no attempt being made to outreach to the community to let the public know that it is functioning. There is not a single sheet of paper offered to the public that tells what the Office of Citizen Complaints is, how it functions, or how one may complain. Eventually there will be something printed, this reporter was informed. . . The office has a \$454,726 budget.

Eugene Swann, the director of the OCC, was appointed in June. He is an amiable Black man who has a great deal more body weight than he needs. Although he has been aboard for six months, he was interviewed in the impressive office of the commander of the Internal Affairs Bureau, Richard Trueb. His own office is a desk in a Police Commission meeting room . . . IAB is continuing to investigate charges of officer misconduct that originate from within the department.

"My role is to be a bridge between citizens," Swann explains, "and a more effective police department." One of his first acts was to be interviewed by a Police Officers Association reporter for the POA newspaper, *Policeman*. Later he wrote a Guest Editorial, at his request, for the same publication — outlining his attitudes. He did not make the same offer to Gay, Asian, Black, or other minority press newspapers.

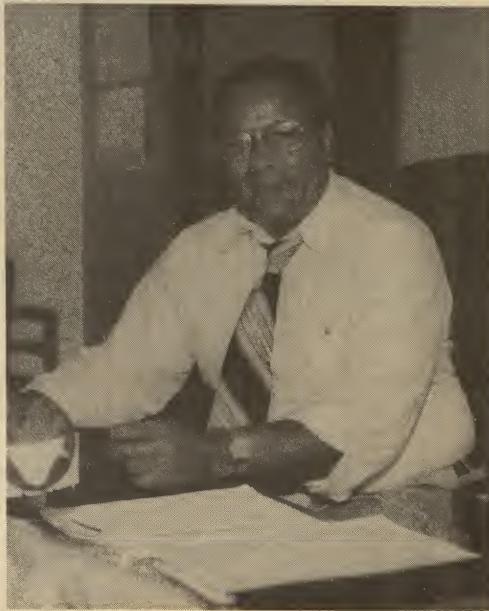
What has been Swann's outreach to minority communities that strongly supported the ballot measure introduced by Supervisor Harry Britt last year? He said he had not — nor does he intend to — seek out speaking engagements or interviews in the minority communities, as he does not want to become involved in politics. Swann stressed that if he approached one faction and not another, he would find himself playing politics and being criticized for that. He is willing to be interviewed and speak to groups — if asked. He has appeared on one local TV show and appeared before Asian and women's clubs.

Interviewing Swann is somewhat difficult. Although he is exceptionally friendly and has a refreshing sense of humor about himself, his answers to questions are often short. He sat back, very relaxed, and says, "I am not on a crash course. I have dreams but I am not a dreamer. I will have more to say later."

Getting it all together has been a job for Swann. Civilian inspectors have been hired and trained and are in the field. There are also problems of phasing out part of the Internal Affairs Bureau operation. IAB has been reduced from 14 to 6 inspectors, as the OCC now has 60% of its budget. IAB and OCC share four office workers.

HUMANE CONCERN

The "new person on the



The first director of OCC, Eugene Swann.

block" is cautious, so rather than be outspoken in an interview he handed this reporter a copy of his *Policeman* guest editorial. He felt more comfortable with something he had carefully thought out in advance. In addressing the police force he made these observations:

"You, above all other members of our society, are given weapons and the authority to use them. You are empowered to make arrests and thereby alter a person's life, maybe forever. You have the edge in dealing with the public and their initial support and respect . . . You are to show decent and humane concern for the people involved. You are expected to exercise more than the common patience, more than the common sense, and more than the common civility . . .

"I realize the pressures and emergencies under which quick decisions must be made. Those decisions and acts which are done in haste and under pressure and which later are determined not to have been the best course of conduct are understandable and part of human nature. Those acts that are motivated by revenge, rage, loss of control of one's emotions, or done with malice are totally unacceptable. Those decisions and acts cannot and should not be absolved from their consequences. To see that they are not is one of the functions of the Office of Citizen Complaints."

Swann also emphasized that he would investigate citizen complaints with "fair-minded, well-balanced, objective inquiries." He wrote that he hoped his effort would "make the job of the police officer easier and more rewarding" and would result in a "public support and confidence in police officers."

Open House for Castro College

The first annual open house to be sponsored by the students, teachers and counselors at the Castro/Valencia College will be held Thursday, December 8, from 5:30 to 7 PM.

New class offerings and schedules for the Spring 1984 semester for both City College credit classes and Adult Center noncredit will be available, as well as an opportunity to visit the school at an open house.

Students in the City College Drama Class (Drama 10A) will present entertainment. There will be refreshments and a

chance to meet teachers, students and counselors at the college.

Admission is free. Please call Bill Upton, 239-3082 during the day or call Tom Menendez at 861-2426 during the evening for further information, or stop by the counseling desk at 450 Church Street on Tuesday, Wednesday or Thursday from 6 to 8 PM.

The Castro/Valencia Division is a planned educational outreach to the Gay community. It is in its third year of operation.

Gay Youth Community Switchboard offers information and referral on community resources, activities, and events sensitive to Lesbian/Gay youth. Call 552-6025.

Palace Sex Stirs Commons

Male employees at Queen Elizabeth's official London residence have allegedly been sexually enjoying one another. Britshers, who have a daily diet of scandal in their newspapers, heard the public charges this week from a member of Parliament, Geoffrey Dickens.

Home Secretary Leon Brittan told Reuters News Service that he is investigating the allegations. Dickens has given him a dossier naming young males who work as footmen, cooks and servants at the palace. They allegedly have had sexual liaisons with older male members of the household staff.

One of the cases in the file,

Dickens revealed, involves a 16-year-old boy who "had been abused." The boy later became the employee of a senior British diplomat.

"I am concerned," Dickens told Reuters, "that the palace could be part of a chain supplying young men to pedophiles and homosexuals in the diplomatic service all over the world." He presented no evidence to support his allegation.

Dickens is campaigning to outlaw a British group called the Pedophile Information Exchange which he claims "advocates sexual relations with children."

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VIEWPOINT

LETTERS

Late Year Plusses & Minuses

As we pass the fifth anniversary of the assassination of Gay officeholder Harvey Milk, we might pause to look at gains made this season in political leverage. The last election we pulled out two mayors and two city councilmen. The spread ranged from California to Minnesota to Massachusetts to Florida.

In nearby Santa Cruz, John Laird, 33, was unanimously elected mayor of that seaside city. Laird was a member of the city council and vice mayor. He will serve in the largely ceremonial post for a year. He had no opposition.

In Key West, which has flourished under a Gay tourist renaissance in recent years, Richard Heyman was elected mayor over the opposition of locals, or Conches as they're called. The opposition tried to exploit the issue of Heyman's homosexuality; it didn't work.

In Boston, David Sondras, 37, won a seat on the city council as an openly Gay man. The district was Beacon Hill-Back Bay and although a narrow victory (103 votes) it was a startling one. For as the United Press headed up the story: "The 27-year-old great grandson of President Theodore Roosevelt was defeated in his bid for a city council seat, losing to an avowed homosexual."

In Minneapolis, openly Gay candidate Brian Coyle took 54% of the vote in a race for a city council seat.

Four swallows do not make a Gay summer, but it's progress all the same. Sometimes I think we underestimate our clout.

★ ★ ★ ★

And then there's news that's not so comforting. Gay labor activists in recent years have taken considerable pleasure in the trials and tribulations of the Coors brewery. For as long as anyone can remember, Coors has been ragged for its alleged anti-Gay hiring practices and its union-busting. Its corporate fortunes had been growing dimmer by the year as it made a series of corporate blunders, and Anheuser-Busch increased its industry lead. It looked like the Gay boycott of Coors made a dent of sorts.

Recently, *Fortune* magazine investment experts labeled Coors a "Beer Stock with Yeasty Promise." Coors has not only bounced back, it was dubbed the champ of brewers in 1983's first half. In that fiscal period Coors reported a 198% increase in earnings.

The experts announced, "Coors has dramatically enlarged its market share in a masterful coup." Earlier in 1983 the Rocky Mountain brewer took its beer to six southeastern states (that make up the fastest-growing beer market in the U.S.). It was a big gamble; however, instead of relying on inexperienced wholesalers, as it did in fumbled expansion in the past, Coors tapped into an existing network of ailing Schlitz distributors thirsty for extra business.

The company in six months grabbed 10% of the Florida market. And industry analysts are predicting that Coors will boost its share of nationwide sales from 6.6% in 1982 to 8.6% by 1985. For what it's worth, Adolph Coors earned over \$40 million in 1982, its stock price is at a 12-month high, and *Fortune* magazine says Coors has a rosy future, and it's a stock worth investing in.

Other times, I think we overestimate our clout.

Funny, to think about how we're doing better with the people than with beer.

Paul Lorch

So Long, Johnny

★ I, like many other Gays and Lesbians in the Bay Area, was pleased to hear this week John Glenn's announcement of his true feelings toward Gays. Now, we can retract the limited support that has been given to him by Gay voters, and watch him stagger in his hopeless attempt to reach the White House.

Most of us have never considered Glenn a legitimate aid to the Gay Rights movement, and at last his narrow-minded views are clearly evident. It is the responsibility of the Gay community to insure that Johnny never reaches a position of where his bigotry can be spread through presidential channels.

Thank you, Johnny, for revealing to the Gay voters your true opinion of us. I assure you, we will all stand and wave goodbye as your campaign sinks slowly into the sea, the Falwell Sea, of course.

Bill Whitesides
San Jose, CA

For a Healthy 1984

★ Being there exists an awareness that community health requires strong individuals of body, of mind, of common kindness and spirit . . . and whereas the pride and history of our San Francisco Gay/Lesbian community rests upon remaining at the forefront in these human pursuits . . . let us hereby give thanks this holiday for this thriving pool of inspiration we find in our lovers, our friends, our neighbors . . . all those vibrant spirits who add a mixture of joy and sorrow to our hearts.

More importantly, as we look ahead to these last few weeks of 1983, we need to see our opportunity to reach out and support each other as never before, ending this year keeping one another healthy and emotionally fulfilled.

If we can walk these streets where we live with healthy bodies, vibrant smiles, strong, clear minds, and understanding hearts . . . these become the gifts we can share with everyone.

Finally, may we all consider this . . . *We do have a future together*. Let us give thanks that the force of our community spirit blesses us with hope for a better world, and the wisdom to prepare ourselves now . . . for our healthier, halcyon days.

Jerry Van Moorlegem
San Francisco

On Employment Services

★ In regard to recent articles attacking the Gay Employment Service, I would like to point out a few realities concerning employment agencies and gay people using their services.

For eight months earlier this year, I made use of high-priced, high-class downtown agencies who would have charged me between \$400 and \$600 if I had kept any of the jobs offered me for any length of time. Though they all boast a very high success rate, they only succeeded in finding me three positions. All of them were lost shortly when my lesbianism, of which I am not particularly ashamed, was discovered.

After the last such incident, a particularly unsavory one, I set up an appointment with the Gay Employment Service, and paid a flat fee of only \$35. The very next day I began employment in a position within the gay community which has proved to be the highest paid and most satisfying of my entire working life.

It is my opinion, based on personal experience, that the Gay Employment Service fills a tremendously great need of gay men and lesbians in this city and elsewhere at an extremely low relative cost. I sincerely hope that the smear campaign against this organ-

ization is based only on ignorance of the true situation. It would sadden me greatly to think that malicious intent of any kind would be motivation to attempt to deny aid to the most desperate members of our community or any other — the unemployed — by destroying the only method through which many of them are able to find work. If such be the case, it would seem that this paper, by publishing such articles, is perpetrating great injustice.

Don't we gays and lesbians get enough of that from the world at large without creating it within our own community?

Jessica Fox
San Francisco

ED. NOTE: *The situation isn't that simple. The service has potential, has done good work, but it has also been charged with exploitation and not following legal procedures. Watch for some significant happenings down the road.*

P. Lorch

The Perks of Fisting

★ At the risk of diminishing reason itself by responding to the very gay confusion and hysteria associated with AIDS, I would nevertheless like to comment on a couple of points of misunderstanding. I address myself in particular to W. A. Crawford's attack on drugs, fisting, Savages, Theatre Rhino, Paul Reed, etc., published in your paper the week of 7 November.

I gather from the muddle of anger and concern expressed in Crawford's letter that he perceives drug use to be a primary cause of AIDS. Whether from medical knowledge or personal experience, no sensible person would disagree that extensive use of drugs diminishes the body's capacity to operate properly and resist opportunistic infections. However, the correlation between fistfucking and AIDS is secondary, not primary, and therefore represents no causal relationship. Even such bastions of repression as the CDC now admit this. Lumping fisting in with drug use provided our foes (some of whom are apparently in our very midst) with one in a series of opportunities to scapegoat this or that sexual behavior they couldn't handle.

We know that drugs are bad for you. We know nothing about the effects of fisting except that people enjoy it. If some, or even many, feel they need a state of severe chemical enhancement in order to experience it, then they belong to the same universe as those who need to achieve that state in order to enjoy a night at the disco. These people probably do not belong to my universe any more than they do to Crawford's. I do not, however, advocate personally attacking them in print as a means of helping them or the community at large.

Perhaps Crawford and other would be less disillusioned by the jaded porno and quasi-orgiastic events they spend money on if their sex lives provided the kind of glow that a fist up your ass does. Perhaps we would have less frustration, drug use, and predictably disappointing entertainment if we put some of the energy into our lovemaking that we put into our pretty bodies, our perfect dress, and our bitching.

Walter Cunningham, Ph.D.
San Francisco

ED. NOTE: *You are incorrect in that we know nothing of the effects of fisting. Despite its apologists' claim to clean fun and ecstasy, the practice is fraught with danger. Forgetting for a moment the damage that can be and is done to the recipient, we cannot escape the simple fact that fisting is a prime source of contracting parasites and amoebas. One school of thought argues that there is a definite link between being a host to parasites and AIDS.*

Thus, your claim that the relationship between AIDS and fisting is secondary holds about as much water as saying it is primary.

P. Lorch

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CONTRIBUTORS

EXECUTIVE & EDITORIAL OFFICES: 1528 15th Street, San Francisco, CA 94103
PHOTOGRAPHY: (415) 861-5019/861-7230

PUBLISHER: Bob Ross

EDITOR: Paul F. Lorch

ASSOCIATE EDITOR, ENTERTAINMENT: John F. Karr

FINE ARTS EDITOR: George Heymont

POLITICAL EDITOR: Wayne Friday

OFFICE MANAGER: Michael Snyder

GRAPHICS & CAMPAIGN: Jim Buckley

GRAPHICS & LAYOUT: Peter Keane

TYPING: Tony Lindsey & Chal Cochran

STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER: Rink

AUDITOR/ACCOUNTANT: Robert J. Dern, C.P.A.

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LETTERS

On the New Pastor

★ During the past 3 years, I have both contributed to and read the *Bay Area Reporter*. Like all of your readers, I agree with some of your articles and letters and some I do not. Such is the privilege of a reader.

However, rarely has anything disturbed me so much as your reply to Fr. Tony McGuire, Pastor of Most Holy Redeemer Church. Tony canceled his subscription because he found your porno section to be offensive and because he felt your front page story regarding MHR and Dignity to be "one-sided."

Your response was to refer to him as a "bigot" and comment on his "rapidly aging shrinking congregation." Inasmuch as Tony ended his letter with an invitation to discuss the matter, I would have ascertained that your response would entertain such an invitation. Instead, you wrote that the only thing to discuss would be his role as "pastor or bigot."

Your response would indicate that Tony's charge that your coverage of Most Holy Redeemer was one-sided is true. Secondly, I find it most interesting that many Gay men and Lesbians have criticized the Porno Section of the *B.A.R.* with rather choice words and yet your response to them has never indicated that they were bigoted. Perhaps narrow minded but never bigoted. I personally find the porno section alright by me even though I know a lot of people who find it offensive.

Certainly, there are members of the catholic clergy that are bigoted against this community. But I would hardly call Tony bigoted. During the Halloween celebrations on Castro, Tony was at the CUAV offices answering the CUAV hotline while others such as myself were partying or staying at home. In the past, Tony has opened up his facilities at MHR to house community meetings within the Gay community. Other catholic clergy within the Archdiocese announced and printed the CUAV notices for monitors at Halloween.

If a charge of bigotry can be pointed to anyone it is you, Mr. Lordi. It seems to me that when anything concerning catholic clergy is written about in your paper, it is written in a very narrow minded way. I am not defending either the clergy or the catholic faith. But I am defending the right of anyone to criticize you without hysteria in your part. What is there to discuss Paul, your role as editor or bigot?

Randy Schell
San Francisco

ED. NOTE: Dear Randy, as a practicing homosexual, I never met a Roman Catholic priest I didn't dislike. They were either on the make, on the take, alcoholic or malevolent. So much for that.

With regard to the new pastor at Holy Redeemer: The article on his treatment of Dignity was written chiefly by them. I read his rationale in the parish weekly; it was lame. He has been out to lunch — for discussion — with those who hope for some sort of detente. They tell me he's a case-closed Catholic (a la the Vatican).

A Jerry Falwell could man the switch board, but where will he be when it comes down to sucking cock and eating pussy . . .

I have no private war with the R.C. clergy. The fact is that the best got out in the late 60's and early 70's — the residue are a meaningless flotsam and jetsam of a dream, still waiting to get started. The leftovers are the agents of a corporate megathreat that would snuff out both yourself and myself if they could whip up the rabid faithful.

On social service? How many Catholic AIDS patients are the Catholic Charities supporting?

Hotline, my ass!

P. Lorch

On the Death of Wallace Hamilton

★ Your "News Bits from the Gay Circuit" offers a glimpse of important events outside the Bay Area, and a welcome relief from the parochialism of other papers. Keep it up!

A recent item noticed the continuing effort to convince the *New York Times* that the lesbian and gay communities are newsworthy and deserving of fair treatment. For example, when author Wallace Hamilton died recently, the *Times* obituary mentioned that he had written the book *Christopher and Gay*, but said nothing about why a book written by him would have such a title.

Hamilton "came out" in his early fifties: "an age generally believed to be about a decade younger than God," he said. But in the next few years, as a powerful novelist, playwright, journalist, and gay activist, Hamilton successfully introduced our lifestyles to the "straight" community. He wrote for *Christopher Street*, the *Village Voice*, and the *New York Native*. His novels include *Coming Out*, *David at Olivet*, and *Kevin*, as well as *Christopher and Gay*. Among the 24 plays he wrote are *The Burning of the Leper*, *Midnight Cry*, *Bonus March*, and *A Friend in the Family*. He was active in the Gay Activist Alliance of New York in the 70's and in the North American Man/Boy Love Association (NAMBLA) more recently.

Hamilton's public fight for gay liberation and sexual freedom was matched by a deep concern for younger lesbians and gays, who need to know their personal struggles are not so singular or exceptional. He believed, and taught by example, that younger gays need opportunities to see older gays as whole persons — not merely as sexual strivers, but as people whose mature achievements provide an encouraging model for others coming to terms with themselves. "A maturing adult," he said, also "needs a guide and an emotional base," something gay youth seldom find in straight society or in gay youth peer groups.

As Hamilton observed, the lesbian and gay communities and gay culture can provide the strength young people need to heal the alienation fostered by the traditional family, ethnic groups, and other social institutions. At the same time, for the future vitality of gay cultures we must build a bridge the young can cross.

Wallace Hamilton's personal integrity and achievements set a high example, a challenge to all of us in the cause of human liberation. We have lost one of our best, a powerful voice for freedom.

Floyd Conaway

On Convention Antics

★ The Stonewall folks are preparing to demonstrate over the issues. And the Harvey Milk people are going to salt the California delegation to the 1984 Democratic National Convention with "radical gays and lesbians."

How embarrassing!

Ronald Reagan, Jerry Falwell, Coleman Young, and CBS should be most pleased by our antics. Not only would we hinder our progress here in San Francisco, but we would also thwart our collaborative efforts nationwide, if not worldwide.

Please do not misinterpret these remarks. We have legitimate grievances which can only be politicized and dramatized as both clubs are suggesting. The issues I'm raising are over timing, and whether we have the exclusive right to speak out on behalf of all self-identified and closeted gays/lesbians.

I ask you to give these comments serious deliberation.

Bob Smith
San Francisco

Fear & Health

★ In light of the recent and ongoing AIDS "epidemic," I would like to submit the following which is an excerpt from a book entitled *Your Psychic Powers and How to Develop Them* by Hereward Carrington.

"The body is a mirror in which all states of the soul are reflected. Perhaps the most extensive of all the morbid mental conditions which reflect themselves so disastrously on the human system, is the state of fear.

"Dr. Hack Tuke, in his book, *The Influence of the Mind Upon the Body*, cites a number of well-authenticated instances of disease having been produced by fear or fright. Insanity, idiocy, paralysis of various muscles and organs, profuse perspiration, turning the hair grey in a short time, baldness, nervous shock followed by fatal anemia, malformation of the embryo, and even skin and other diseases, apparently more removed than these from the effects of the mind, were traced to the effects of fear and other mental disturbances. He pointed out, also, that epidemics, such as cholera, smallpox, diphtheria and other malignant diseases, obtain a footing in a community largely through the fear of the inhabitants, and that hundreds and even thousands of persons fall victims to their own mental conditions."

So guys, men and boys, let's keep our minds healthy and free of all negativity and eliminate the fear of contracting AIDS. This, along with medical science, will help to eliminate AIDS much faster than worrying excessively about ourselves and our friends contracting the malady.

Edward Jon Beccay
San Francisco

Since 1937

★ I did not see Mr. Gac's item, but I am afraid that Woody Underwood's operatic tastes are as dead as Maria Callas. Where has he been? Callas revolutionized opera. Rosa Ponselle (whom I was not aware of being dead) left no successors, nor lasting tradition. Perhaps Mr. Gac did not see Maria Callas, but I doubt that Mr. Underwood saw the great Ponselle either.

Speaking of agonizing performances, Ponselle's farewell as Carmen, February 15, 1937, was so unfortunate that it left her vast fans with a bad taste in their mouths. Although Callas' two commercial recordings of Norma are not considered her best, some of the many pirated "Normas" of live performances are outstanding. Callas herself admitted she needed a live audience for inspiration. Mr. Underwood can keep Ponselle's 1924 recording of "Casta Diva" and "Mira, O Norma" with Marian Talley. The recording industry, as well as opera productions, have come a long way since then.

Bob Reed
San Francisco

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LETTERS

Liked CMC Carnival

★ My lover and I would like to congratulate all of the members and anyone associated with organizing the fantastic CMC Carnival. It was a day of just letting it all come together and having a great time. The entertainment was first class, and to all of those who entertained us — Bravo!

The events that took place were very exciting, the money raised for charities was wonderful and fun at the same time. To all of the men who were contestants to raise money for their favorite charities, you all were winners on this fun-filled day.

Al & Bud Kohner-Smith
San Francisco

You Forgot Disco

★ I noted with great interest your column, *Viewpoint*, on the many cultural innovations, etc., that were Gay invented.

I think, however, you left out a very big contribution of Gay culture to the straight society — Disco. Yes, I believe it started in New York. But, I do remember living in Houston in the mid-late 70's and how the straights would flock to the one and only disco in town, which was ours. Of course, later, they had their own disco, and we had ours back.

Thanks for a great newspaper!

David Boyles
San Francisco

Two Suspect Initiatives

★ I have a friend in Los Angeles County jail who is awaiting trial on a murder case. He writes me quite often and I consider him to be bisexual. He's warned me and keeps writing about Robert H. Philibosian, the L.A. County District Attorney, who is sponsoring the *Criminal Court Reform Initiative*. There are 30-second (short) light spots starting to show up on radio and TV. I understand that all the police agencies are behind this bill.

I haven't been able to get a copy of what this bill is all about, but it's my understanding that it would severely affect gays and their rights.

He informs me that gays in the L.A. jails are treated like the Jews under Hitler. They make them wear orange jumpsuits and the guards speak awful about them.

My friend, David, warns that if this bill is passed the gays will become like the Jews and Deukmejian will become Hitler. He warns, "Gays and minorities better wake up to what's going on." If we don't, he warns that especially in the case of homosexuals, that we are facing the same fates as the Jews faced in Germany — EXTERMINATION!

He also claims there's an initiative to change the *Supreme Court Reform Initiative*, which will also affect the gays.

I have many problems of my own but would like to hope that the B.A.R. would have a reporter look into these two initiatives and see if there's anything to worry about — if you already haven't done so.

Joseph Elia

"In Media Verite"

★ AIDS is a spectre. It attacks the very root of who we are as gay men and women. It points at our sexuality just as it points at the habits of IV drug users with an uncompromising gesture. As much as we may know and justify to ourselves that AIDS is not God's wrath on gays, there is that itching question mark in our conscience. "What if . . .?" it asks. Why aren't we normal and away from this illness? What did we do to deserve this illness? In what way can we ensure our health and freedoms?

There is hardly a question that the risk is in sexual contact. Yet that strikes us at the very root of our beings. We and society both define ourselves in large part as gays, and the presence of AIDS reinforces that identity with our sexual side. Also, in large measure, the coming out of gay society has been predicated on the acceptance of sexuality. How many gay virgins do you know? In our culture, sexual interaction is a part of the rites of passage. If hepatitis, herpes, and AIDS are to be looked at without politically correct myopia, they do point a finger at promiscuity — at all that has been fought for by gays — or so it would seem. Our entire subculture seems to be based on prosexual scenes: bars, baths, parks — even the gay parade is a celebration of our sexuality and has certainly been a locus of meeting for those who would enjoy sex with one another. How many other events lack a sexual focus? Even this year the CMC Carnival had a back room of sorts, and there seemed to be no few people willing to pump bodily fluids into one another. AIDS cases are reported in New York at the rate of seven per day according to one person with AIDS. And people continue to put themselves at risk. At what point is the sexuality going to become secondary to knowing one another as people?

We are lacking in a structure by which to promulgate the idea that being gay is all right and that one need not engage in sex with many different people in order to be gay. As I was coming out, I rejected the idea that this was one of the rights of passage. Sex to me was special — and in times since its specialness has been compromised by too many (although less than two dozen) sexual partners. Yet I have some swollen lymph glands and I am frightened. Where is

the structure of support without sleaze, of help without humping, that we can show to our younger brethren who might be discovering their sexuality? In what ways do we encourage through action, not books, the by now understood necessity that promiscuity is to be avoided and that a life of moderation, as the Greeks taught us, is the one to be followed? In what way have we proven to the straight world that we are worthy of respect — of not using others to our own advantage but by giving ourselves to others completely? All too often what is sought for is the orgasm. We have sex and the lust is fulfilled, but the need to hold and be held, the need to be recognized for our femininity (the gay men among us) and not to play that macho role of needless MAN. Instead of repressing that need to be loved into lust for others, we need to recognize our deeper needs and the needs of others.

Mind you, I am as horny as the next guy and share the problems of the author of "Looking for Mr. Safesex," and falling into the same traps. However, I believe that use and abuse of others is bankrupt. A tradition of caring needs to be established. Sex is not more important than love, and unlimited sex has its very real penalties. I feel them in my chin right now. I sure as fuck don't want to die of this disease, and I hope that others will recognize the very real problems we have and work for a solution with the rest of us.

AIDS is not God's wrath on homosexuals, but it may well be his wrath on those who do not recognize the spirit and soul within the other and treat it with respect.

William Freeman
San Francisco

Brown Out



(Photo: Rink)

★ Thanks for showing up the "Public Defender" for the closeted homophobes he (and they) are. Should Jeff Brown and his cohorts get away with using the phony "homosexual panic" defense (or offense) to exculpate these vicious criminals, it'd set back Gay rights at least fifty years. The sooner Jeff Brown is relieved of his post, the easier all of us can breathe.

R. Vernon
San Francisco

On Esther

★ My friend Esther died of AIDS on Monday, October 24. I had just written a poem for him because I wanted him to know I love him and that regardless of what happens he will live in my heart and in all our hearts who know him. I wasn't able to give Esther this poem, so instead I want to give it to you, the B.A.R., and to all the people who read the B.A.R., and to all the people who knew Esther:

My friend Esther is not well:
Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome.
AIDS.

I will not let you die!
Esther, who first kissed me when I thought he did not like me.
I will not let you die!
Esther, who talked to me when I could find no one to listen.
I will not let you die!
Esther, who danced on the Equinox, when he brought to me the Goddess.
I will not let you die!
Esther, who first loved me when I thought no one would ever love me again.
I will not let you die!
Esther, who lay still as death when I wrapped his face in plaster and we laughed at the likeness of the final plaster cast.
I will not let you die!
Esther, who is my doorway to sequins, baubles, rhinestones, feathers.
I will not let you die!
Esther, who loves Ann-Margret;
Esther, who sat washing himself on the washing machine;
Esther, who is Queen of Hamburger Mary's;
Esther, who is legend to legions at the Stud;
Esther, who is grace;
Esther, who is John;
I WILL NOT LET YOU DIE!

Thank you. I love Esther. I love you.

Sam Ambler
Berkeley, CA

Poison Spreaders

★ There was a sign above the 900 dead in Jonestown: "Those who do not remember the past are condemned to repeat it."

In the 1950's the Army seeded the breezes above the Bay Area with a "harmful" virus. A few old people died, many more contracted a mild case, and the government got its statistics.

In 1982, three mysterious diseases attack the perfect target population: homosexuals. Can we confront this horrible possibility, or will we just

"Shut up and drink the Kool-Aid"?

Mike Lawson
San Francisco

LETTERS

Prison Pen Pals

The Bay Area Reporter has not screened any of these correspondents. While we think it a good idea to keep lines open to these inmates, we do not wish any of our readers to be exploited. We suggest anyone who writes not to send money, not to get emotionally involved, nor to make promises on places to stay, etc.

Keep in mind some of those men are in maximum security prisons. They didn't get there for jaywalking. All the same, some are good people; some are not.

Very Much Gay in Florida

★ I'm writing you to ask if you could put my name in your paper. I need someone to correspond with because I need someone to talk with, because it is hard to do time without getting some mail. Florida is no place to do prison time, but I'm here so I need some love and caring from someone. It would help just getting a letter.

I'm 5'8", 143 lbs., brown hair, brown eyes, 24 years old, and Italian. I am also very much gay.

I hope you can help me out.

Joseph M. Solloway, 084712
Box 813, F-351
P.O. Box 158, MCI
Lowell, FL 32663

Big Boy in Florida

★ I am presently incarcerated in Florida. I am a California resident and desperately need to get in touch with some good people. My funds are very low since I'm not able to earn wages and I'd like you to print my ad.

"California sportsman, age 27, incarcerated in Florida prison system, needs good friends. I'm 6', 200 lbs., very muscular, intelligent, into TM, bisexuality, and anything healthy and fun. Will answer all replies, especially fantasy letters. Photos too!"

"Big" Ed Bechamp, 072713
P.O. Box 158, 025
Lowell, FL 32663

Smuggler/Drugger in Florida

★ I am writing this letter to ask you to place my name and address in your magazine because I am lonely and need some people to write to me. At the present time I am in prison on narcotics and smuggling charges and I pray that I will be out soon, but 'til then I would like to have some correspondence with some honest and caring people who will be for real. I realize that is a vanishing breed, but I feel there are some left. So if you could do that I would be most grateful.

Kenneth Capraro, A-058658
Box 518
Zephyrhills, FL 34283

Black in Mississippi

★ I am writing with the hopes that I may be able to have an ad placed and also receive a copy of the magazine that the ad is placed in.

Willie Cochise Redd, DOB 1/31/60, 5'9", 160 lbs., medium build, brown eyes, black hair, dark chocolate complexion; prose poetry writer, artist, outdoors type. Turn-offs: bars, fakes, liars. Turn-ons: movies, gentle sex, children, animals, nature, roses, martial arts, occult reading, fiction reading. Seeking: mature, honest, open-minded, intelligent type that wants to settle down, share life and love; race unimportant; am extremely sensitive! Photo and SASE get answers."

Willie Cochise Redd
40710, U/24
Parchman, MS 38738

Needs Black Bondage Fantasy

★ Please put this in the prison pen pals part, okay?

Young white gay boy, blond hair, blue eyes, 5'10", 160 lbs., from Santa Cruz, into bondage and humiliation, wants to hear from all you big black studs out there who can get into my white slavery fantasy by mail. I like to pretend I'm bad and have you kick my ass into black and blue submission. Send photos.

Kenny Dodson, C-63736
C.M.C., Room A-2378
San Luis Obispo, CA 93409

No Mail in Ohio

★ I would like to inquire if you will please consider granting me a correspondence ad in your paper. I am regrettably a lonely prisoner and it hurts deeply to watch the guard pass my cell with no mail. Your understanding consideration is deeply appreciated also.

Please allow me to introduce myself in this ad: "Jim Miller, lonely prisoner wishes correspondence. I am 6 ft., 180 lbs., firm, brown hair and eyes. I lift weights, draw, compose poems, read, etc."

I'll prepare to close here, sending my best of wishes in all your endeavors.

Jim Miller, #143611
Box 511
Columbus, OH 43216

Seeks Bisexual Friends

★ Hi! I would like to have my name on your paper. I appreciate it, I am not writing to anybody. I am in prison and I like to make a friend if it is possible.

My name is Alberto Milian, white male, 5'9", 152 lbs., black hair, black eyes. I am AC/DC. I like indoor and outdoor sports, swimming, music. I'd like a letter from bisexual male and female.

Thank you from a friend.

Alberto Milian
#078010, F-226
MC1 P.O. Box 158
Lowell, FL 32663

Trio from Lowell, Florida

★ My name is Levi Payne. I am a 31 yr. old Black confined male and I would like to put my name in your paper for correspondence. I am 6'1", weigh 183, and I'm into bodybuilding. I am a firm believer that physical fitness is important as any mental ones. Therefore, I'm a lonely macho-bi who enjoys making love to the mind as well as I do the body with those who are open for an experience with this Pisces to be known and appreciated.

Levi Payne, #029343
H-533 (697)
P.O. Box 158
Lowell, FL 32663

* * * *

★ Howdy. Well first of all I'm down here in Florida doing some time in this rat hole they call a prison. And I would like someone to correspond with. I would appreciate it if you could help me out in this matter.

Well, I'm 5'7", weigh 150, brown hair, blue eyes. I'm Bi. Some of my interests are music, dance. I enjoy a good man when I can find him. I'm 25 years old.

I would appreciate it if you could send me a new paper and put my name in it.

Harry Woodall, #912200
P.O. Box 938
MC1 Box 938
Lowell, FL 32663

* * * *

★ I received your address from a very close friend and would like to know if you could place my ad in your magazine in hopes of seeking a sincere relationship with another male.

I am 28 years old, brown hair, blue eyes, 170 lbs., 5'11". I go by the name of Mike and I am a cute, intelligent, sincere, young, and fit looking bi who would like to meet other bi's or gays in hopes of acquiring a sincere relationship.

I am incarcerated but will be released soon. I would appreciate it if you would print my ad.

James M. Kennedy, #908135
MC1/H-465
P.O. Box 158
Lowell, FL 32663

Long Termer in Florida

★ I am writing your newspaper in time of great need. I am in prison and have been since 3-21-79.

I obtained your address via a friend and he suggested you folks; reason is: I am an Oregonian and I really am searching hard to find anyone who'll write me. It doesn't matter which sex (I'm into both) that writes.

I'm looking for friends, associates, lovers, and any other kinky people who'll write and befriend me.

I'm a white male, approximately 5'9 1/2" tall. I have blue eyes, blonde hair, and a decent body capable of many kinky arrangements. I'm 29 years old (3-16-54). I understand your newspaper charges no fee for this service for the people of the world. I hope to be listed in your paper and hope to hear from interested parties. Thank you.

Mike R. Howard
#069916, 417
P.O. Box 158
Lowell, FL 32663

San Luis Stamp Collector

★ W/M, 5'8", 170 lbs., 27 years old, brown hair, blue eyes. I am imprisoned at present at the California Men's Colony for GTA. I would like to hear from generous gay men to give a lonely inmate a helping hand! I like jazz and classical music, also stamp collecting!

William Christiansen, C-01123
P.O. Box A, Quad A, Room 2221
San Luis Obispo, CA 93409-0003

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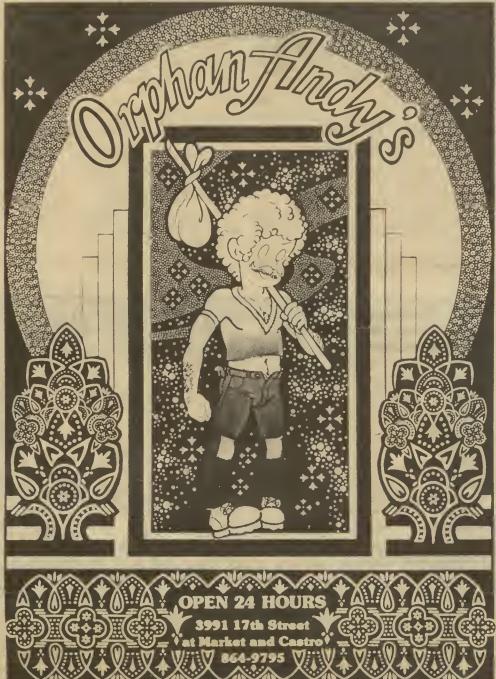
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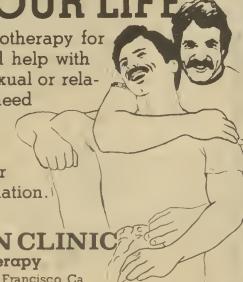
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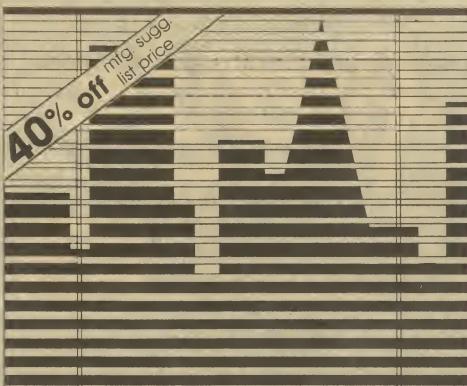
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CIA's Homophobia Under Siege

Lawsuit Filed, UC Lawyers Want CIA Out, L.A. Times Editorializes

by George Mendenhall

John Green, a manager of a top-secret project in the Los Angeles area, and Dick Gayer, a Bay Area plan designer, are being denied higher paying positions and job security because they do not have the highest level government security clearance. Both are being held back because they are homosexuals. Gayer never got the high clearance and has been trying for months to find out why. He could be placed on layoff. Green had the high clearance but lost it in 1981. This month Green sued the CIA through the San Francisco-based National Gay Rights Advocates.

Green, 50, is a relatively quiet and unassuming man. He shares with Gayer commendations and continuing advancements. Green is employed by a Torrance firm called TRW, Inc. When the CIA, which does the security checks for federal employees, discovered that Green had a male lover in 1981, it pulled his clearance.

Ironically, Green is not only being denied because he is Gay but because he has allegedly concealed the fact. Green has had a male lover for 10 years and is known as Gay by those on his job. He has been openly Gay in his activism with a Gay political group in Long Beach. He has been a member of a Gay ski group since 1967.

Green is somewhat surprised that the CIA "discovered" he was Gay because he made no secret of the fact. He recently told a *Los Angeles Times* reporter, "I never felt any need to corner people and express my sexual preference. I just live my life." He said he would have told the CIA a long time ago about his sexual orientation — if they had asked. He has been investigated for lower-level clearances since the 1950's.

No set financial amount is requested in the Green vs. CIA lawsuit. The action, filed in U.S. District Court in Los Angeles, challenges the anti-Gay policy itself. The government will be asked to prove that there is a nexus (relationship) between Green's sex life and his on-the-job performance.

GAYER STILL WAITS

Unlike Green, who is a Gay Republican, Dick Gayer is active in the local Toklas Democratic Club. He never got the higher clearance so is subject to a layoff and lower pay because he is not permitted to do top secret work. He works for General Telephone and Electronics in Mt. View.

Gayer's political activism has been extensive. It spans

a 15 year period in which he fought for an earlier security clearance, won the right to a GAY LIB license plate and organized a controversial Gay Guns contingent for the local Lesbian/Gay Freedom Day Parade in 1982.

The engineer has retained consultant Frank Kameny in Washington, D.C. to help him get a CIA-approved clearance. Kameny was told by the CIA last week that it will not reveal anything about Gayer's case. Unlike Green, Gayer can not even get a reply so he waits — and waits — for at least a rejection. He wonders how many others in his situation are waiting and may never be cleared.

When the *Bay Area Reporter* asked a CIA official in Washington about its policy on homosexuals (Aug. 25, 1983 issue) it was told that while it did not discriminate against homosexuals as a class, it did consider such people as possible security risks. The CIA cited the possible risk of having Gay foreign service agents who might be bribed into giving away secrets. How this could relate to upfront Gay people within the United States was not explained.

The CIA also related to *B.A.R.* that is was concerned in its investigations if Gay employees practiced voluntarily, how often and whether the acts were in public. It desired to know who the partners were.

GAY STUDENT PROTEST

While the CIA was withdrawing Green's clearance in Torrance and withholding Gayers' clearance, it was denying it discriminates to the University of California at Berkeley. In seeking to continue its campus recruitment effort, the Deputy General Counsel of the CIA, Edwin Dietel, denied in September to Dean Jesse Choper of Boalt Hall Law School that any discrimination existed.

The Lesbian and Gay Caucus of Boalt Hall urged

that the CIA discriminates against Gay people, but Dietel said he would sign a statement from the caucus to the effect that it did not. Dietel was permitted to recruit future CIA employees on the UC campus on October 12. Eighty students marched in protest.

Dietel sent a statement later to the campus group — but not the one pledging non-discrimination that had been sent to him. He sent his own statement which admitted that a person's sexual behavior "can be a ground for refusal to hire if such behavior endangers the national security."

Boalt Hall has a written policy of not permitting government agencies on campus if they discriminate on the basis of sexual orientation. UC's Lesbian/Gay Caucus believes that the CIA effort on campus on October 12 violated that policy. It has protested to Dean Choper.

The Boalt Hall activists, however, appear to have reached a dead end with campus authorities. Last week they asked that a grievance procedure be established so their arguments against future CIA activity on campus can be adequately heard by authorities.

TIMES EDITORIAL

The *Los Angeles Times* editorialized on Gay security cases on November 16. It stated that the CIA has "had a longstanding record of barring homosexuals from sensitive security clearances, based on the assumption that homosexuals are susceptible to blackmail and are a security risk."

The *Times* concluded, "The time has come for the federal government to reassess its out-of-date policy. It is time for the government to drop a prohibition that is no longer valid, and to evaluate potential security risks on an individual basis rather than on a stereotype that is now outdated."

Gay History Time at National Historian's Convention

Special programs on Gay history will be presented throughout the 98th Annual American Historical Association convention to be held December 27-30 at the Embarcadero Hyatt in San Francisco.

"She Even Chewed Tobacco," a slide/tape documenting 19th century San Francisco women who passed as men, will be presented Tuesday, December 27, at 8:00 PM, Hyatt, Embarcadero A. The slide/tape was produced by members of the San Francisco Lesbian and Gay History Project and premiered at last summer's International Lesbian and Gay Film Festival.

"Tain't Nobody's Business, a slide/talk about interracial Gay life in Harlem during the 1920s, will be presented by Eric Garber on Wednesday, December 28, at 8 PM, Hyatt, Embarcadero A. Garber is a member of the San Francisco Lesbian and Gay History Project and the co-author of *Uranian Worlds: A Reader's Guide to Alternative Sexuality in Science, Fiction and Fantasy*.

Another slide/lecture, "The Making of the Modern Homosexual: The Historical Transformation of Urban Gay Subcultures into an American Gay Culture" by Gregory

Sprague will be presented Thursday, December 29, at 8:00 PM, Hyatt, Bayview A & B. Sprague's lecture details the history of American Gay men and their culture from the mid-19th century to the present.

Male Homosexuality in Comparative Historical Perspective, a joint session with the AHA, is programmed for Dec. 30, at 9:00 PM, Hyatt, Embarcadero D. The presenters are Sprague and Walter Williams of the University of Cincinnati. Sprague and Williams are co-authoring a book on male homosexual behaviors and Gay identities in North America prior to 1950.

All programs are free and open to the public.

LETTERS

Prison Pen Pals

The Bay Area Reporter has not screened any of these correspondents. While we think it a good idea to keep lines open to these inmates, we do not wish any of our readers to be exploited. We suggest anyone who writes not to send money, not to get emotionally involved, nor to make promises on places to stay, etc.

Keep in mind some of those men are in maximum security prisons. They didn't get there for jaywalking. All the same, some are good people; some are not.

Black Belt and Bored in Starke

★ I am an inmate at Florida State Prison. A friend of mine here told me that your publication will enter correspondence ads in your classified section.

First of all, I would like to tell you that I am sincere in regards to being totally honest with whoever answers my ad. I'm aware that some inmates take advantage of your readers by hustling. That is not my intention. I've become bored and lonely, so I thought of writing.

I'm not very experienced at writing ads and would appreciate any help you could give me.

My name is Roy Bissonette. I'm 26 years old, light brown hair, hazel eyes, 5'8", weight 165 lbs., well built, considered goodlooking.

I'm into most sports, hold a black belt in Shotokan Karate, and a brown in judo. I'm gay and have been for the past four years. Would like to hear from guys my age or older.

Roy Bissonette
#039295, U-2-S-2
P.O. Box 747, FSP
Starke, FL 32091

Getting Out Soon from San Luis

★ I've been a long-time subscriber of B.A.R., though at present I am "In the Belly of the Beast" (prison).

"29 years old, white, long hair, male wanting to correspond with sincere person.

"My interests are skiing, skin diving, underwater photography. By profession I am an artist/sculptor in clay and wood.

"I'm from Texas and doing time in lonely California — 5 months to freedom after 8 years of this bureaucratic void."

Jim Harrison
P.O. Box A
C-11405, 2391
San Luis Obispo, CA 93409-0003

Little Loner

★ I am a blue-eyed, blond GWM, 19 years old. I stand 5'8" and weigh 148 lbs. I seek correspondence and friendship with those who are sincere enough to share some happiness with me. I love to write and will answer all letters. I especially hope to hear from you tall, dark-haired, blue-eyed, hairy-chested hunks! After all, fantasies are what get me through the nights. Smile. Hope to hear from you soon!

Kenny Dodson
C-63736 - 2378
P.O. Box A
San Luis Obispo, CA 93409-0003

Young Blood

★ I am a 24-year-old prisoner, weighing 140, 5'6". black hair, brown eyes, and very lonely.

I am ready for release and willing to travel the United States and will answer all letters with a self-addressed stamped envelope.

Times are hard and days are long, so write soon.

Jeff Dolick, #14907
Westville Correctional Center
P.O. Box 473, Dorm 6
Westville, IN 46391

Black Gay in Ohio

★ I heard about a pen-pal column and I would like to have an ad printed for myself free.

I'm gay, Black, 27, 6'1", 170 lbs., incarcerated and want to correspond to establish a meaningful relationship. Sentenced to 3 to 15, 14 months to go before Parole Board.

Ernest Foster, 173-924
Marion Correctional Inst.
P.O. Box 57
Marion, OH 43302

Six-Foot in Florida

★ I am doing time in Florida and do not have any outside contact.

I am a white male, age 26, medium built, dark black hair. I am six-foot, bisexual. I would like to hear from anyone who is interested in writing. Some of my interests are country music, sports, and writing.

Felton Davis, 046767
P.O. Box 158
Lowell, FL 32663

★ I wrote a letter on October 17, 1983 requesting that my ad be placed in your magazine, but so far I have received no letters. As I said prior I am incarcerated at the Indiana Reformatory. I'll be released shortly and desire to meet a companion that lives on the West Coast. Let me tell you a little about myself and interests. I was born October 3, 1959. I'm White, have brown hair and blue eyes. I weigh 150 and stand 5'9". In my leisure time I enjoy swimming, surfing, camping, horse back riding, traveling, sports, tennis and music. I'm interested in meeting an older gentleman that is settled and appreciates the finer things in life. One that enjoys togetherness to the fullness.

I hope you will run an ad for me in your magazine, as I desire to meet someone before my release.

Henry Raymond Smith
Reg. No. 7382
P.O. Box 30-7382
Pendleton, IN 46064

Florida Bi Surfer

★ I am incarcerated at Marion Correctional Institute here in Florida. Some friends of mine said your paper would run an ad for me.

I get out in April and I sure would like to make some friends by then.

I'm a 30-year young surfer, blond hair, blue eyes, good physique, very lonely and in need of friends. Only sincere need write. I am bi and will fly the coop in April. Would like to hear from someone wishing to build a beautiful relationship. Will be able to travel in April. Am well educated. Love physical minded people.

Michael Dee Mann
#085275 F-326/562
P.O. Box 158
Lowell, FL 32663

Hans



★ I'm 6', 175 lbs, 35 yrs old, premature gray-blond hair, brown eyes, 30" waist, 8" cut. Gay since age 8 yrs. Doing time for self-surrender bank robbery. To be paroled during the summer of '84, to the Russian River Area, but South of Market will always be my favorite number one playground.

Richard C. Nelson (Hans)
US#73980-012 - H Unit
3901 Klein Blvd.
Lompoc, CA 93436

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NEWS BITS FROM THE GAY MEDIA CIRCUIT

THE BLADE

Air Force Witchhunt in D.C.

Washington, DC - At least 91 Air Force enlisted men stationed in the greater D.C. area are being investigated on allegations of homosexuality and drug abuse, according to *The Washington Blade*.

Quoting sources close to the investigation, the *Blade* reported that an additional 100 Air Force personnel are also being questioned by authorities in connection with the allegations.

At least one man stationed at Bolling Air Force Base in Virginia has committed suicide as a result of the investigation, and Air Force investigators are mon-

itoring a Gay bar in southeast Washington to learn whether any AF personnel frequent it, the *Blade* reported.

The Air Force probe prompted the Gay Rights National Lobby to issue an alert that personnel at the Pentagon and Andrews Air Force Base are also being investigated.

The Gay Rights National Lobby attacked the investigation, with GRNL legislative assistant Mike Walsh calling it "an outrageous violation of constitutional rights," and being based on "archaic stereotypes of Gay and Lesbian Americans." ■

ALTERNATE

Printer Nixes Memphis Gay Paper

Memphis, TN - Distribution of the monthly Gay newspaper *Gaze* was disrupted for two weeks last month when the printer contracted to print the newspaper refused to do so, charging that the November issue "goes against our political beliefs," according to a spokesperson for Mississippi's *Kosciusko Star-Herald*, *Gaze*'s printing

elected Governor of Mississippi, denied charges leveled during the campaign that he engaged in sexual dealings with two Gay prostitutes — had anything to do with the printer's refusal to roll *Gaze* off its presses.

The four-year-old monthly only recently switched to the *Star-Herald* for printing because of what *Gaze* said were "quality problems" at its previous printing company.

In a front-page announcement of the paper's delayed printing, *Gaze* editor John Stillwell said it was uncertain whether its lead news item — that William Allain, newly-

printed *Star-Herald* finally printed *Gaze* under threat of a lawsuit for breach-of-contract by *Gaze*'s owners. ■

GayChicago

Central Park Attacks On Again

New York, NY - Five years after former Olympic ice skating star Dick Button was attacked and beaten by a gang of bat-wielding teenagers intent on "beating up fags" in Central Park, a new wave of anti-Gay assaults has swept the Ramble section of the park, according to the *New York Native*.

The newspaper said it has received accounts of Gay men being stabbed by a knife-wielding teenager on October 21 in the Ramble, a Gay trysting ground for more than 50 years, but the NYPD said they have received no reports of violent incidents there.

In 1978, Button, who is not Gay, was jogging in Central Park en route to his West Side home when he was attacked by six teenagers in the Ramble section who thought he was Gay, clubbing him in the head and legs with baseball bats. Button, who won the figure skating gold medal in the 1956 Winter Olympics in St. Moritz, France, was hospitalized for three weeks. His attackers were arrested, tried, and convicted of first-degree assault with deadly weapons.

In the latest incidents, the *Native* reported that they received accounts of at least two stabbings of Gay men in the area, that a third man was found in the same section, who also had been stabbed. The *Native* did not say whether the man was still alive or dead. ■

GayLife

PA Has New Gay Aide

Philadelphia - Ed Schwartz, recently-elected member of the City Council, fulfilled a campaign promise and appointed Scott Wilds, a longtime local Gay activist, as a legislative aide, according to *Philadelphia Gay News*.

Schwartz, founder and president of a local "think tank" known as the Institute for the Study of Civic Values, said that Wilds will serve "as a member of the staff who will keep track of legislation."

Wilds is believed to be the first openly Gay legislative aide to a

City Council member in Philadelphia's history.

Schwartz said that Wilds, who is chairman of the Philadelphia Equal Rights Coalition's political action committee and a member of the executive committee of the liberal Americans for Democratic Action, "is extremely qualified" for the job.

Wilds, a native of Tennessee, and a Philadelphian for ten years, was elected in 1980 to the Pennsylvania State Democratic Committee — its first openly Gay delegate. ■

Gay Community News

NOW Sponsors Lesbian Meet

Washington, DC - The National Organization for Women, for the first time ever, will sponsor a conference on Lesbian rights in January, it was announced last week.

The conference, entitled "Lesbian Rights: Power and Politics in '84," will be held January 20-22 in the New Orleans Ballroom of the Red Carpet Hotel in Milwaukee.

Chris Riddiough of the NOW action staff said the conference "is a further implementation" of NOW's longstanding support for Lesbian and Gay rights. "Workshops on political campaigns, lobbying, effects of the Wisconsin Gay Rights Law, and other topics will provide a forum for discussion of critical issues in the Lesbian and Gay movement and will prepare for participation in the 1984 presidential and congressional election process."

For complete information, write to: 1984 Lesbian Rights Conference, NOW, P.O. Box 7813, Washington, DC 20044.

In a related development, an open Lesbian had been elected president of the Pennsylvania NOW chapter. Mary Nancarrow of Harrisburg, a former co-chair of the Pennsylvania Lesbian/Gay Support Network and who has been active in NOW since 1975, will head the 10,000-member Keystone State affiliate of NOW for the next two years, according to the Philadelphia Gay newsmagazine *Au Courant*, which, incidentally, is celebrating its first anniversary.

Nancarrow said that her three greatest goals in her administration are "the defeat of Ronald Reagan, the election of feminist women to public office, and, of course, the ERA," adding that Pennsylvania NOW will campaign to defeat those members of the Pennsylvania congressional delegation that voted against the Equal Rights Amendment.

Nancarrow is a member of the Pennsylvania Council for Sexual Minorities and is an investigator and mediator for the state Human Relations Commission. ■

SEATTLE GAY NEWS

Seattle Woos Tourists

Seattle, WA - A new effort is being launched to attract more Gay tourists to Seattle in the next year, according to *Lights*, a local Gay newsmagazine.

Dennis O'Mohundro, president of the Greater Seattle Business Association — the city's unofficial Gay chamber of commerce — told *Lights*, "We'll not only go out to seek visitors and organizations from the Gay community, but we'll also send information to all of the conventions coming to Seattle and let convention planners know that we're here and that we have services available for the Gay and non-Gay members."

Mrs. Fields' Cookies



Mrs. Fields on Castro Street target of Gay job discrimination suit. (Photo: Rink)

(Continued from page 1)

tempt to humiliate him. He was not given a promised pay raise but was made District Manager. About this time he was informed by other employees that Debbie and Randy Fields were making derogatory remarks about Gays, that they were homophobic, and that they were attempting to reduce the number of Gay employees.

Johnson was told that he had too many Gay employees in his San Francisco outlets. He was cautioned and told that it was rumored that he had to be Gay to get advanced at Mrs. Fields' Cookies. The plaintiff denied the allegation but made a concentrated effort to hire straight employees, even over more skilled Gay employees, in order to resist the criticism. He was praised in late 1982 for his effort by the Fields themselves. Johnson said he was then told he was being considered for a vice presidency in the company.

A new regional manager of San Francisco was hired in early 1983, and Johnson's future with the company was shattered says his suit. The plaintiff claims his wages were suddenly cut and there was a general harassment of Gay managers "to get them to resign."

Recognizing that he was the "target of a discriminatory campaign," Johnson offered to step down as District Manager if he could be promised the management of the very profitable Embarcadero Center outlet. This was agreed to, in writing, on the condition that he temporarily manage the Castro Street outlet. However, he was later told "you are the type of individual who would work well in the Castro neighborhood." The company hired someone else to manage the Embarcadero store. Taking the Castro position was a cut-in-pay to Johnson as the Embarcadero Center store had large commissions for the manager.

Feeling that he was being pressured and harassed, Johnson quit Mrs. Fields' Cookies in May of 1983. He believes he was legally discharged because he had no choice at the time.

The lawsuit claims that the owners of Mrs. Fields' Cookies (and up to 100 "John Does") discriminated against Gay people "by denying them promotions with pay increases, making their duties more difficult than heterosexual employees, and by innuendo and insinuation caused such employ-

ees to understand that they would continue to be discriminated against if they remained."

Violations of the municipal code barring discrimination against Gay people in employment is alleged. It is also charged that the defendants violated the state labor code which prohibits employers from "restricting or coercing" employees — such as one who is openly Gay.

Johnson is now unemployed and claims he has retained a psychiatrist in order to help him in his period of stress. He says he is emotionally distressed and physically ill as a result of his experience with Mrs. Fields' Cookies. In the judgment requested no specific amount is set but damages are asked for malicious conduct, mental and physical pain, denied wages and the cost of the suit.

In a case earlier this year, former city employee Michael Raines lost a court case in which he charged that he was denied a position as Performing Arts Director of the War Memorial complex because of his sexual orientation. The defense (the City Attorney) attempted to eliminate Gay people from the jury during the jury selection period, and the judge later questioned the validity of the city non-discrimination ordinance. Johnson vs. Mrs. Fields' Cookies will be another opportunity for attorneys to observe how cases that allege sexual orientation will be tried. Johnson on the advice of his attorney did not want to speak to the press.

Taylor Devine, Chief Operations Manager for the Fields chain, spoke to this reporter from his Park City, Utah office. He said he had not seen the complaint filed by Johnson but "he evidently was an unhappy employee who quit and then, months later, filed a complaint against us."

When asked about the allegation that Mrs. Fields' Cookies discriminates against Gay people in employment, he urged "I am the person who approves promotions and I have nothing to hide. The charges are untrue. I assure you that I am not that kind of person — nor are Mr. and Mrs. Fields. I feel good about telling the truth about this. We are proud of our employment record. No employee has ever filed discrimination charges against us before this."

G. Mendenhall

Aids Researchers Still Need Interviewees

This month, you may have been handed a questionnaire as you walked out of a bathhouse or bar, or you may have received one in the mail. If so, you are one of about 1500 people who are being asked to tell Gay researchers about their feelings about AIDS and about the details of their sex lives for the past year.

Researcher Leon McKusick says, "This study will be used to discover how AIDS is affecting the attitudes and behavior of the community. It will also advise public health officials on how best to educate San Franciscans about the epidemic, and to guide further medical research."

The funds for this study are part of the \$1.7 million package for AIDS research and services passed by the Board of Supervisors and signed by the Mayor. Subjects who volunteer to participate further will be sent questionnaires over the next year as social scientists continue to monitor the changes in lifestyles of these Gay men.

The researchers are asking for the cooperation of those men who were given surveys by returning them, either completed

or blank, by December 5.

Anyone with questions about the research should call McKusick at (415) 626-8627. ■

Stonewall Goes for 'Gay Sex After AIDS'

Stonewall Gay Democratic Club will hold a panel discussion at its Monday, December 5 meeting on the topic, "Gay Male Sex After AIDS: Are We Being Responsible?"

Confirmed speakers to address this complex and controversial issue are Bobbi Campbell, a Gay man with AIDS; Konstantin Berlandt, '82 Parade Co-chair; Arthur Evans, Gay author, and Priscilla Alexander, Lesbian feminist activist. Other panelists have been invited, but are unconfirmed at this time.

Stonewall meets at the Women's Building, 3543 18th Street, 7:30 to 10 PM.

"It is our intention to raise at

this forum a series of questions that many people have raised in private discussions: what is the "responsible" reaction of Gay men to the AIDS health crisis? How does this relate to baths, promiscuity, monogamy and celibacy? What are the risks of sexual activity of AIDS patients? And how does this all relate to the role of Gay men's sexuality and Gay liberation?

"It is not our intent to offer definitive answers to these questions, but rather to initiate public discussion with the thoughts of significant Gay activists," commented club President Paul Boneberg. For more information, call 552-4287. ■

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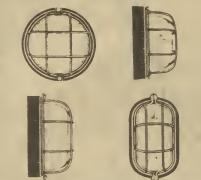
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Looking for Mr. Safesex

Part III: I Found Him Closer to Home

by Paul Reed

Who hasn't thought about whether or not they are safe from AIDS? Who hasn't wondered if it might not show up tomorrow or next week? And then, who hasn't wondered: "Am I really safe? Should I give up sex altogether? Or will I be able to find somebody to have safe sex with? Is there anybody out there who cares about these problems as much as I?"

Looking for Mr. Safesex is, perhaps, not as difficult as I have portrayed in this series of articles. In fact, it's so easy to find Mr. Safesex that I have shocked myself that I didn't find him much sooner.

Where can you (or I or anybody) find Mr. Safesex in this grand, cold, difficult city? The answer is simple: look inside. I tried — for several months — to find a man *out there* who wanted to observe AIDS-aware precautions, stick to me, and maybe, just maybe, develop a relationship. I sat up nights worrying about it, got depressed about it, fussed and fretted at my analyst's office over it.

But what I was doing, as I now know so well, was dislocating my own difficulties, with the idea that somewhere out there existed some magic man who would make things right: Mr. Safesex.

Well, this was just a new version of the old knight-in-shining-armor myth, the same old hope I've nursed for years (and even now seem unable to abandon) — there, on the dance floor might be the man; or that guy at the baths; or the next new member of the gym . . . As Quentin Crisp says in the *Naked Civil Servant*, I was waiting for a "great, dark man," who, of course, does not exist anywhere but in my mind.

So, even if and when I do meet someone who shares the same sexual goals as myself — trying to weather the AIDS crisis — he won't be the answer to all my sexual and relationship problems.

Which brings me to the next brink of personal disaster — the reality that the AIDS crisis is not the end of the

world.

For some — specifically those now suffering the syndrome — it is devastating, to say the least. But for those who have not been so unfortunate, for those who make up the great body of persons known as the "worried well," the AIDS crisis does not mean that the Gay community is over, or that we Gay men must abandon any feeling, lust, or sexuality for each other.

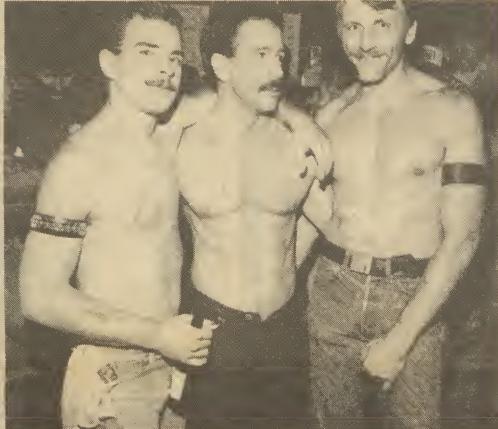
What it does mean, and thus, what the search for Mr. Safesex means, is that some habits have to be broken, and that is what looking for Mr. Safesex is all

about.

It's the search for new patterns, for new ways of meeting men and having sex with them without giving up hotness, or late-night partying, or the possibility of a relationship, or wearing my leather and cruising the bars. It's not all over — it simply has a new context, and it has new patterns and habits.

But here's the catch: those new patterns and habits have to be individually defined by each person who is concerned about the AIDS crisis and its risks for himself.

That's what my search for



When it comes to choosing a partner these days it's not just his sex appeal that counts, it's his health. (Photo: Rink)

GUEST COLUMN

Look Again at Glenn

by Joel Howard Conklin

President of the United States.

The vision was a glorious one that envisioned you as the only possible Democratic candidate that could beat "the hell outta" Ronald Reagan at the polls, almost exactly a year from today. I was seriously considering getting actively involved in a presidential campaign for the first time in years, but now all sights of you as the perfect candidate and Ronald Reagan ousted from office seem blurred and beyond recognition.

First off, your statement that "homosexuality is a behavioral problem" is totally without intellectual substance, if sexual preference is a behavioral problem then you heterosexuals are in the need of some serious behavioral counseling (child molesters, rapists, and all-around perverts). Don't kid yourself, Mr. Glenn; as a scientist you must be aware that most activity on this Earth is not a product of man but one of the many "wonders of our Universe."

Now to your more ridiculous statement that "It is not the job of government to



promote sexual preference."

What the hell have you heterosexuals been up to for the past 200 or so years? I mean what do you call the only recognized form of marriage in the United States? Legally (by way of government imposed laws), only a MAN and a WOMAN can marry (for the express purpose of producing babies) whether or not they love each other or not, but if a MAN loves a MAN . . . forget it, our so-called democratic government says it is illegally immoral.

If this is not a true promotion of heterosexual, then I'm a moonwalker from the word Go.

The job of the government is to "protect and defend each and every one of its citizens equally under the law" and to not do so is "unconstitutional" and intellectual blindness such as this can easily stimulate "revolutionary movements" unseen since the 1700's or so. We can only wait so long for our

Mr. Safesex was all about, breaking the old habits that kept me locked into a prison of "hotness" — thinking that I had, absolutely had to offer a man all the old things — anal sex, cocksucking to the point of dehydration, fisting, and so on — in order to be "hot."

When such a "hot" scenario began to conflict with my protocols for reducing risks, I had a big problem on my hands, and I know that many hundreds of us still do have that problem on our hands. Then, my only alternative seemed to be to stop going to the baths, stop going to the sex clubs, stop going out late to the bars to meet guys. This led to serious depression, as one might imagine.

Then I discovered that, like all such things, the changes begin at home. It sounds corny — oh, does it ever. I admit — to say that I found Mr. Safesex within myself, but it's the way the story ends, truly.

I found that if I wanted to reduce my risks, I reduced them. I found that my sex life didn't have to stop; I only had to exercise a tiny bit of discipline and restraint, and I was fine.

So, I've got my Saturday nights back. I've got the bathhouse back. I've got the sex clubs back. I've added a jack-off club to my repertoire.

And I'm not the only one who's discovered this. Last week — at the Caldron — I ran into several friends and acquaintances, all of whom had come to the same conclusion: they weren't going to sit at home and mope; but neither were they going to risk contracting AIDS (or clap, or parasites, or herpes, or hepatitis).

And so, when that good-looking fellow at the bar or the baths comes up and indicates his trip involves something most definitely off my list of safesex, I simply find the courage and the discipline to say: "Sorry, you're a nice guy, but I just won't." Not can't; not shouldn't; not "I don't know." I just won't. I've found Mr. Safesex, and now I'm looking for a partner.

constitutionally distributed rights and if you political scientists don't focus your social microscopes and see the true meaning of democracy, you may have a civil rights movement on your hands that will make the 60's look like a tea party.

Remember, Mr. Glenn, I am only one of nearly 25,000,000 voting-age homosexuals who were crushed by your anti-Gay remarks; 25,000,000 is a lot of single votes to count, and if your lack of "human compassion" loses you only 2.5% of the Gay vote, that's nearly one million votes for someone else. The 1960 election was lost by only a minute fraction of the million.

I recently told a friend that I thought that you, as a former astronaut, have seen our Earth from a perspective that no other presidential candidate could even dream of and that you must have realized the true value of our planet and its one Universal purpose (the promotion of life and the evolutionary process) and Homosexuality is a 20% chunk of this process and to deny or interfere with it would be biological madness that may take centuries to heal.

In closing let me say that I am placing a hold on my 1984 vote and I will await any signal from your side as to a change in your political attitude towards us American Gays.

Witness Alert

by Randy Schell

CUAV does more than just compile statistics. We conduct educational meetings for service agencies — prevention stuff — like where to walk when it's dark, the importance of using whistles. We monitor huge and small events and we advocate for victims of violent crime. "Advocate for victims of violent crime," what the hell does that mean?

That means we assist witnesses if they have to testify in court. It means we help victims get back money they have spent at hospitals or money they have lost because of missing time from work. Sometimes it means we transport a victim to a hospital or to a police station so they can file a report. Sometimes it means counseling — holding a hand on a hand and letting someone know that there are a million alternatives to despair.

Sometimes it means that we pace the Hall of Justice and try to find answers to questions that appear to be unresolved. I have a case in point and I'd like to tell you about it. It's sort of akin to Quick Hits but it's one hit only and it needs one person's assistance to make it complete. For the rest of you, it explains one aspect of our advocacy program. For that one person who is now reading this article, I hope you contact me; it's really important. Here's the situation:

The victim of a robbery contacted me at CUAV. He was disturbed because he had been involved in an altercation in which he was robbed at knife-point by three assailants. One other person who was a witness to the altercation had managed to escape and flag down police officers. Because of his intervention, the police intervened and the suspects were arrested and charged. The problem arose when the District Attorney could not prosecute because the witness could not be located. This is the incident that occurred. The narrative is a combination of the police report that was filed and a written statement by the victim.

NOVEMBER 9, 1983

The victim met the three assailants outside of The Staples bar on November 9. One of the assailants spoke to

the victim and said, "Hey, let's go party; do you want to go along?" The victim then invited the three men inside of the bar to have a drink and "talk about it." During the course of the evening, another bar patron joined the party at their table and asked if he could go along to the party. This was agreeable, and after a beer they all left to go to the home of one of the assailants located on the 900 block of Mission Street.

The party then continued at the assailants' home. Then, as the victim was looking over a record album, one of the assailants "sprung to his feet with a huge butcher knife in his hand. I thought for a second this must be a joke." The victim turned quickly towards the direction of the other two assailants and saw both of them wielding "matching stainless steel butcher knives with stainless steel handles."

One of the assailants quipped, "We're going to kill you." According to the victim, the assailant "placed his knife on the bridge of my nose with the blade across my eyes." At this precise point, the witness lunged at the door and fled down the hall with one of the three assailants in pursuit — he was chasing him with the butcher knife. As the victim was held at knifepoint, the other two assailants stated, "Don't kill him yet, wait to see if he (the witness) gets away." When it appeared as though the witness was not coming back, one of the assailants grabbed the victim's watch and removed his wallet and took his cash. The wallet was given back to the victim as one assailant said to another, "Something has gone wrong; we have to get him the hell out of here." Then they released the victim.

He ran outside and found a police car approaching the building with the witness in the back seat. The witness and the victim then went into the house and both identified the assailants and a citizen's arrest was made. The victim signed the citizen's arrest form.

The evidence discovered by the police was fairly conclusive. The police report filed by the two officers stated: "We went into the room and found (B-1, 2, 3) — (the three assailants). We took them into custody, as they

Vivian Blaine PSA's for LA AIDS Project

Public service announcements recorded by actress Vivian Blaine for the AIDS Project/Los Angeles have been distributed to more than two dozen area television and radio stations. The 10, 30, and 60 second spots feature Miss Blaine discussing the activities of the Project and include a hotline number (213) 871-AIDS.

The star of film musicals such as *State Fair* and both the stage and screen versions of *Guys and Dolls*, Miss Blaine has energetically supported the work of the Project. Through her contacts, she arranged that all the studio space, technicians and video be donated to APLA free of charge. She has given media interviews to explain her commitment to fighting AIDS and to challenge other celebrities to do the same.

A record album recorded at

the Gardenia Restaurant earlier this year has just been released. Proceeds from the album, *Vivian Blaine For You* will be donated to the Project. She also appeared at a screening of two of her films at the Vista Theatre and took the stage to auction off memorabilia to benefit APLA.

In recognition of her humanitarian activities, Miss Blaine was recently honored by the Alliance for Gay Artists (AGA) at their annual media awards. Max Drew, head of fundraising for the AIDS Project, commented, "Miss Blaine was one of the first Hollywood celebrities to take up the fight against AIDS. We are deeply grateful for her continued support and her efforts to encourage other members of the entertainment community to lend their names and efforts to combat this disease."



Church and Market and the 22-Fillmore electric bus. Get on board but keep your whistle and Mace handy. (Photo: Rink)

met the V/R's (Victims/Re-ported) description. "Included in the narrative of the police report was a description of four pieces of evidence including the victim's watch and the butcher knives. After the arrest, the witness fled the scene.

NOVEMBER 23

I am always at the Hall of Justice on Wednesdays, so I took advantage of the day and went into the District Attorney's Investigations Department and discussed this case with Ron Huberman. Sure enough, the District Attorney could not prosecute because the witness could not be located. The name and address on the police report did

not match. Finally, both Ron and myself discussed the situation with Assistant District Attorney Bref French. We concurred that the situation was not hopeless. Together, we decided to make an appeal to the witness to come forward and testify. If you are reading this, we urge you to contact either myself or Ron Huberman at the District Attorney's office. His number is 553-1756. My number is 864-7233.

I think I can understand why you might be scared. It was a scary situation and maybe you're afraid there may be reprisals. I can only tell you that in the years I have done this work, not one of the witnesses or

victims that testified were ever bothered by the assailants. But there is something else for you to consider. What if they try this again? The victim told me on the telephone that it "was so professional — it was obviously planned, and I think they would have killed me if he (the witness) hadn't escaped." Investigator Huberman added, "It looked like a professional job."

But, there is one more thing — one final thing I want to add. I saw the mug shots of the assailants and I recognized two of them. I have seen them on Castro Street more than once. I'm scared too. I'm scared of what could happen to someone else.

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POLITICS AND POKER

Glenn Blows Gay Backing

WAYNE FRIDAY



Sunday night's fifth candlelight march honoring the memories of Harvey Milk and George Moscone brought out some 5,000 marchers including Supervisors Hongisto, Britt, Renne, and Silver; DA Arlo Smith; Tim Wofford; Milton Marks; Gina Moscone and three of her four children; Santa Cruz Mayor John Laird; and other officeholders.

my life like a man." The 76-year-old Hepburn, married only once (from 1928 to 1934), sounding like anything but a feminist, added that "marriage just was not for me." As for today's women, Hepburn says, "I honestly think they've gone batty today. Women simply are not men; and if we think they are, we're making a big mistake." (Lived her life like a man, eh?)



DA Arlo Smith rethinking backing of Senator John Glenn for Demo presidential race after Glenn dumps Gay rights program.

Glenn told a San Francisco press conference that he doesn't "promote or advocate homosexuality," adding that it's "not appropriate for the federal government to extend" specific legal protection to Gays. Anyone to nominate Senator Glenn for the national Jackass Award? • Meanwhile, some of San Francisco's previously announced Glenn supporters are quickly backing off (Dick Hongisto, Jeff Brown, etc.). Arlo Smith told the paper that he, too, is in the process of reconsidering his support.

Governor George Deukmejian has already told the *Sacramento Bee* that he will indeed run for re-election in 1986, adding that it is "unlikely" that he will run for president in 1988. • And although someone from his office will surely deny it, the Cranston for President camp is reportedly heavily mired in debt and you can expect further staff cutbacks soon.

Those organizing Sunday night's peaceful candlelight march were quick to disassociate themselves from the stupid remarks made to the *San Jose Mercury News* early last week ("Look for trouble next Sunday night when our 'peaceful' demonstration explodes; I'm carrying some glass bottles myself").

• Meanwhile, the current president of the Stonewall Club is busily looking for media space by calling for all kinds of "demonstrations, etc." at next July's Demo Convention (good old Stonewall — "always the bridesmaid and never the bride" when it comes to positive thinking and newspaper space). • Supervisor Jack Molinari, hopping mad about the Guichard scheme to reduce the Board of Supervisors from 11 to 7, has pledged the first \$1,000 to fight the plan. • Friends of Molinari are putting on a \$250 cocktail party to honor his 12 years on the Board next Wednesday (Dec. 7, 5:30-7:30 at the St. Francis; 788-2109 for

(Continued on next page)



Scott Smith, former Harvey Milk business partner and lover, spoke at Sunday's memorial march. (Photo: Rink)

Sal Roselli telling me that he will run against incumbent Randy Stallings for president of the Alice Toklas Lesbian/Gay Demo Club when members choose new officers in January.



Alice editor Sal Roselli is lining up backers in his challenge to president Randy Stallings in a January election.

• The Health Committee of the Board of Supervisors (Walker, Molinari, Kopp) voted last week to recommend to the full Board two resolutions regarding the sale of "poppers" — one would require postings making it illegal to sell poppers to those under the age of 18; the other would ask the federal government to require warnings on popper bottles that their use might harm the immune system (the federal Centers for Disease Control has stated there is a "small but significant relationship" between AIDS and the use of poppers). The two proposals from Supervisors Ward and Walker should go to the full Board for a vote next Monday.

Veteran actress Katharine Hepburn telling *Parade Magazine* last week, "I haven't lived life as a woman at all. I've lived



Katharine Hepburn and George Hearn, his *La Cage aux Folles* co-star.

(Continued from previous page)

info. • And Mayor Feinstein and the S.F. chapter of the National Women's Political Caucus are holding a Gala Holiday Reception at the mayor's home on December 15 in honor of San Francisco's women commissioners (\$35; 541-4011 for info).

In Sacramento they are already predicting that the Republican primary fight to decide who will get the chance to run against Alan Cranston (should he run for re-election) in

1986, will be between conservatives John Rousselot of Aracadia and L.A. County Supervisor Mike Antonovich, both right-wingers, and moderate State Senator Ken Maddy. • California Democrats will send 345 delegates (and 115 alternates) to their convention here in San Francisco next July, and the state's Republicans will send 176 delegates to their confab in Dallas. • A survey of 1,000 teenagers polled in the December *TeenAge* magazine reveals that while most teenagers consider sexuality an individual's per-



Fresno's Ken Maddy talked about as GOP challenger to U.S. Senator Alan Cranston.



Governor Deukmejian says, of course he'll run again.

W. Friday

Ken Jones and Linda Boyd Elected Parade Co-Chairs '84

Ken Jones was elected Co-Chair and Linda Boyd re-elected to a second term heading up the Lesbian/Gay Freedom Day Committee at its November meeting.

Theme for the 1984 Parade June 24 will be voted on at the Sunday, December 11, meeting from 5-7 p.m. at the Women's Building, 3543 18th Street, around the corner from the Parade Committee office at the Valencia Rose, 766 Valencia Street.

Suggestions for the theme may be phoned in at (415) 861-5404 or brought to the December General Membership meeting. A graphic concept illustrating suggested themes as they might appear in button and logo form are encouraged.

New Co-Chair Jones dates his activism back to his mother's support when he sued his high school district in New Jersey for forbidding him the lead role in the school play, Thornton Wilder's *Our Town*, because it wasn't written for a Black person.

Ten years in the Navy ('69-'78), Jones now works as a



'84 Parade Co-Chair Ken Jones (Photo: Rink)

Budget Coordinator for the

University of California's Department of Radiation Oncology at 15th and Folsom Streets. In '82 he was a volunteer for the AIDS/KS Foundation, and this year he was Outreach Co-Chair for the Parade Committee.

Re-elected, Boyd was Co-Chair of the 1983 Parade. She was born in Wyoming and raised in Petaluma and San Jose.

Also elected to Parade Committee offices: Wylie Brown, last year's Program Co-Chair, to Recording Secretary; George Embler, office manager, to Treasurer; and last year's Childcare Co-Chair, Lin Moses, to Corresponding Secretary.

Members of the Lesbian/Gay Freedom Day Committee Board of Directors will be elected at the December General Membership meeting (nominations are still open), and by-law amendments may also be considered. ■



Returning for a second year as Parade Co-Chair, Linda Boyd. (Photo: Rink)

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AIDS — A Personal Exploration

Part IV: The Nurses on Ward 5B

by Mike Hippler

This is Mike Hippler's fourth installment on his experiences with Ward 5B, the AIDS Ward at San Francisco General Hospital. In this segment he looks at the nurses who have volunteered.

Bill Nelson, Anne Steinlauf, and Alison Moed are three of the R.N.'s who volunteered to work on the AIDS ward at San Francisco General and who have been working 14 and 15-hour days, fifteen days a month since July, when the ward opened. I know waiters who work 14-hour days occasionally — I am one of them — but we didn't volunteer for our jobs, and we don't have life and death responsibilities on our hands. All we have to do is to slam food down in front of people — we don't have to keep them alive. Furthermore, unlike the nurses on Ward 5B, we don't have to deal with a set of potentially terrifying unknowns. Instead, we deal with simple things, like coffee refills, dessert choices, and daily specials. And most of us do it just for the money. So why do they do it? What motivates these nurses to work long, hard hours in an emotionally exhausting environment for rewards which must be inadequate?

Bill Nelson cites two reasons for volunteering to work on the AIDS ward, one professional and one personal. First, he notes "the excitement of being involved on the frontlines against a new disease." AIDS is to medical workers interested in research what a ride in a space shuttle is to scientist/astronauts — a chance to explore the unknown. But there is more — Bill volunteered because a number of his friends have contracted the disease, and he wanted to be

of some help to them. Unlike Bill, Alison Moed had no friends with AIDS when she volunteered to work with AIDS patients. Nevertheless, she volunteered for similar personal reasons. "It was a way for me to hold back the waters," she explained. "If I'm fighting for it in some way, then I'm protecting the people that I love." And it is no longer true that she has no friends with AIDS, for "once you work here," she notes, "they are all people you love." When Bill

speaks of the sense of dedication which he really does feel and which sustains him in his work, Alison adds, "We are a fantastic bunch. There's no one here who does not care. It's not an easy job, and the money doesn't compensate."

What of the hazards? Do they ever worry about catching AIDS themselves? True, there have been no cases of health care workers contracting AIDS, and it is fairly well accepted now that AIDS can only be passed

of their social lives has virtually disappeared since the AIDS ward opened, but this is mainly due to the long hours they keep rather than to any adverse reaction on the part of their friends. "All you do is work and sleep," says Bill, "and dream of being here."

When Mom was sick, I noticed that some nurses tend to form close relationships with their patients while others maintain a distant, formal attitude. On the AIDS ward, says Bill, maintaining distance is impossible. "You do get close to them," he says. "Having this disease cuts through the bullshit, and you build relationships that are solid. Patients will share things

1?" "And so well!" the friend replied.

Unfortunately, the nurses on the AIDS ward also confront death as part of their daily routine. "I've seen lots of people die," admits Bill, "because I've worked in ICU. Since being here, I've seen four die. Some you are glad to see die, for then their suffering is over. But you never get used to it." Adds Alison, "I don't like to see people die alone. I want someone to be with them. People greet death in different ways — some are ready for it, and some fight it to the very last minute — and part of what we can do is to help them find acceptance." Sometimes, in addition to acceptance, patients

Despite the victories won inside Ward 5B — outside they won't make a great deal of difference.

with us that they won't share with others. But it hurts." Bill and the other nurses also have formed close relationships with each other. "We have to stay in touch with each other," says Alison. "We need each other. It's real important to keep talking about it a lot." The nurses work in teams of four and meet in support groups twice a week, and this reinforces the bonds between them. The meetings also give them a chance to talk about the things they see as well as the things they react to those things.

The main thing they see, of course, is how the patients cope with their disease. "You do see

discover something greater — inner reserves of strength and courage they never knew they had. Concludes Bill, "What is brought out in these people is often the highest part of them, and that brings out the highest in you."

Perhaps the hardest part of the nurses' job is the feeling that despite the advances made and the victories won inside Ward 5B, outside they won't make a great deal of difference. "There's still a lot of naivete out there," says Bill. "It surprises me. People are still inconsistent on leading the lifestyle of

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The nursing staff on Ward 5B at San Francisco General Hospital plan their day. (Photo: Rink)

through the exchange of bodily fluids, but don't nurses work with bodily fluids all the time, and isn't there always a first time for everything? "It doesn't bother me," says Alison. "I wash my hands and that's enough." Bill echoes Cliff Morrison when he says, "My risk is because I'm a Gay man, not because I'm a nurse." And Alice Steinlauf admits, "I think you can't help but wonder about it. But I don't think I'll get it."

Every day there are stories in the paper about the discrimination that people with AIDS face due to ignorance and hysteria. But what of the people who work with AIDS patients? What do they face when their friends and family find out where they are working? "My friends are real curious about what's going on here," says Alice. "It's the first thing my Mom asks about," adds Alison. "And a couple of my friends won't have me over to dinner anymore. But my parents do think I'm brave." All mention

negativism, cynicism, and self-pity," Alison confesses. "If people didn't go through these things, they wouldn't be human. They'd be robots. But that's rarely what you see. You also see humor — wonderful, sweet humor." I am immediately reminded of Patrick, the self-described Marguerite Gautier of Ward 5B. After a brief coughing spell during our interview, he turned to a friend who was present and said, "I suffer so, don't

Coming Out for Lesbians

An eight-week structured group focusing on issues relating to coming out to oneself and to others begins in December. Tuesdays, 3:30. Contact Mary Foley or Maris Smith at Operation Concern 626-7000/TTY. Fee: sliding scale, MediCal, insurance. Wheelchair accessible.



a few years ago. They're still taking drugs, indulging in heavy sex, and going to the baths three or four times a week. We're putting all this time and energy into helping and educating people, and there are a lot of people not listening." Alison agrees that this is frustrating. "We hope every day that the dying won't be the dying anymore." Yet Ward 5B is full, and at the rate things are going, it will be full for some time to come.

National Labor Leaders Featured for Gay Event

Dolores Huerta, Vice President of the United Farm Workers Union and Tim Twomey, Vice President of the Service Employees International Union (SEIU) will be honored at a celebration of AFL-CIO support for Gay rights to be held this Sunday, December 4 at 1339 Mission Street from 3 to 7 PM. A \$20 donation is requested.

5th Milk March, Perhaps the Last

(Continued from page 1)
moving down the main street of San Francisco.

The yell of the crowd was a strange contrast to the earlier quiet tone. The media, the police, and the march organizers tensed, underscoring an unstated fear that violence might erupt. The police had spent weeks preparing for any possible incident. Out of sight 100 officers were in the basement of City Hall, and police on horseback were hidden away on side streets. Most of the vice squad were undercover in the march.

The only hint of trouble was an early in the week inconsequential scare. Last week the *San Jose Mercury-News* reported that Ben Gardiner, a former president of the Stonewall Gay Democratic Club, was so angered by the Attorney General's announcement not to prosecute Dan White that he might bring bottles to the march. It was the only time preceding the march where there was even a hint of possible violence. Gardiner marched unarmed, and the police reported that there was not one single incident that night.

At City Hall there was a lengthy program. It was to be a tribute to those who had died as martyrs. For whatever reason, thousands of marchers chose not to enter Civic Center. The number at the program numbered less than 2,000. The crowd further thinned at the presentation of a whopping 15 speakers and 2 singers.

Those appearing on the stage were: Cleve Jones, Scott Smith, Corey Busch, Tom Horn, John Burton, Lupita Kashiwahara, Cecil Williams, Dick Sklar, Lia Belli, John Laird, Herb Rusche, Carole Migden, Randy Stallings, Harry Britt, and singers Mimi Farina and Bonnie Hayes.

Cleve Jones set the tone for the program when he said, "No coward's bullets will stop us." He then introduced those who would represent Harvey Milk, George Moscone, Benigno Aquino, Martin Luther King, and the Kennedy family. Scott Smith, who heads the Harvey Milk Archives, the sponsor of the event, then spoke to the group.

Tom Horn was introduced and he, in turn, introduced Gina Moscone, the widow of Mayor George Moscone, to the crowd. She became, in an instant, a symbol of her husband. The people responded by raising their candles high in the air. They matched the light with a thundering ovation in honor of Moscone. This was the first time that Gina Moscone has participated in the candlelight march for her husband. She chose not to speak to the crowd. Certainly it was the emotional moment of the evening as Mrs. Moscone and her children, Christopher and Rebecca, joined together below the mayor's balcony.

Tom Horn, who reportedly had been instrumental in encouraging Gina Moscone to participate, talked of George Moscone. He commented that to most he was known only from a distance. "What we saw," Horn said, "was a vision of hope." Corey Busch, a former aide to the mayor, described the man as "a special man of vision, compassion, and laughter." Former Congressman John Burton called Moscone and Milk men of peace and justice.

Then came the introduction of Lupita Kashiwahara. A mass originally scheduled for a downtown church was moved to the Most Holy Redeemer Church in the Castro.

Cecil Williams then followed by stating, "Tonight, the world, the region, the city are watch-



The Milk Moscone Memorial Service at Grace Cathedral Saturday night.
(Photo: Rink)

ing." He said, "All is well because we're moving on." Williams said, "The most important thing is that we must have unity and solidarity." The crowd cheered him on as he challenged ministers and priests to "put down their old theology." "Gays are not evil," he told the crowd and "the church has got to get turned on to love, humanity, and courage."

Recently elected Santa Cruz Mayor John Laird said, "The death of Harvey Milk sealed my dream." "The first returns are coming in from Altoona," he said, speaking of Gay office-holders elected in Key West, Laguna Beach, Boston, and Munstou, Missouri. German parliament member Herb Rusche restated the famous Harvey Milk statement, "We are everywhere."

The people at the event were unable to relate former MUNI boss Dick Sklar to the Kennedy family. There were loud laughs backstage as Lia Belli was announced as the representative of Martin Luther King. One person said, "Jesus sent Cecil Williams, but I don't think Martin Luther King sent Lia Belli!"

The evening was wrapped up by speeches from Harvey Milk Club President Carole Migden, Alice B. Toklas Club President Randy Stallings, and Supervisor

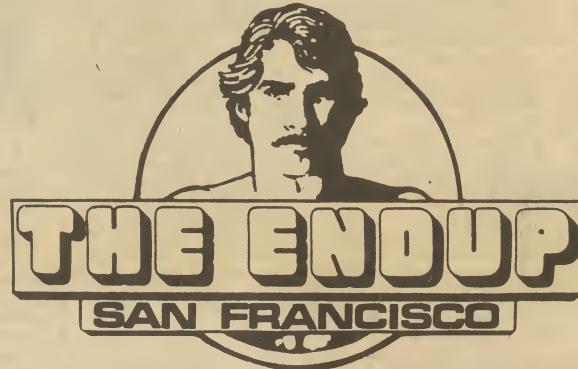
Harry Britt.

Cleve Jones announced that there would be a planned protest on January 6. He hopes to bring the city of San Francisco to a complete stop the day Dan White is released. For fifteen minutes at 1 p.m. workers will be encouraged to stop work, others to stop their cars, and all to make noise. No organizational heads have openly endorsed the protest. A group calling themselves the "Ad Hoc Committee to Protest the Injustice" handed out flyers to the departing crowd.

As the evening concluded, there were many who wondered if this might have been the last year of a candlelight march. Others participating in the march were critical that the marching politicians were not acknowledged. Significantly, the San Francisco Gay Freedom Day Marching Band has participated every single year and never once been thanked by the organizers of the event.

Back at Castro Street, the sign on the Bank of America wall announced, "40 Days and Dan White will be free." At 18th Street there hung a Scale of Justice constructed of aluminum pie tins and string. The symbolic weights were Twinkies.

A. White



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6TH & HARRISON

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GREATER BAY NEWS

AN JOSE SANTA CLARA CUPERTINO SUNNYVALE REDWOOD CITY PALO ALTO MONTEREY PLEASANT HILL VALLEJO BERKELEY WALNUT CREEK CAMPBELL FREMON

OAKLAND

Aux Abois! (A Weeping Nose!)

NFZ PAS.

Gene Earl is gone. What else can one say when a friend is taken away but, "I'm so sorry, I will miss him."

I will miss our once a week meeting, when he would stop by on Friday night to pickup this column . . .

I will miss his playful putdowns of me whenever we talked. I learned that if he *didn't* make fun of someone, he *didn't* like that someone . . .

I will miss the "games" we used to play against each other, always vying for the oneupmanship . . .

I will miss teasing about his "gold plated" toilet tissue dispenser he proudly displayed in his van . . .

I will miss our accidental meetings in places we didn't expect to see each other — but somehow we knew we would . . .

I will miss his carping about me and Roy Plumber. Especially the day he found out that we were one and the same. The carping became stronger, but always with a gleam in his eye and a smile on his lips . . .

I will miss all those "favors" we did for each other. Some back-fired, some didn't. We knew the rules of the game, and there had

to be a winner and a loser. Gene usually won . . .

I will miss his complaining about poor parking conditions and the tickets he got for double parking when delivering this paper . . .

I will miss his candid comments about all the bars on his route. He definitely had his favorites, and let those favorites be known. He also made no bones about places and people he didn't particularly care for. One always knew where one stood with Gene Earl . . .

I will miss his serious moments. Yes, he did have them — and many meaningful conversations resulted . . .

I will miss his accusation about my "hot" column causing his van to burst into gaseous flames. He never did tell me the real cause of the fire . . .

I will miss our unique camaraderie. It will never be duplicated . . .

I will miss his highs and lows, joys and woes. He shared them all and I feel I am better for that sharing . . .

Yes, I will miss him — but so will all of the Bay Area, Russian River, Sacramento, and all the towns down Highway 99 that

were part of his weekly routine. An exhausting routine, to be sure, but one that was done with stubborn pride and well-earned honor. He will be missed by a lot of people, but none will soon forget him.

I'm so sorry. I will miss you, Gene Earl.

★ ★ ★
PARADIGM!
(A Designing Nose?)

ACIE Emperor and Empress V, Don and Cha Cha, are offering a \$25 prize for the winning logo design for their Fantasy and Ice Court. The logo design must incorporate a teddy bear and a penguin.

Due date for entries is Sunday, January 1, 1984. The winner will be announced on Monday, January 9 (probably at the ACIE meeting at Revol.)

Addendums are being attached to flyers around town, detailing where and how to submit entries.

★ ★ ★
CONGE!
(A Saddened Nose)

Last Saturday I received a phone call and was informed that Queen of Hearts V, Lady Cathy, must leave the area to take care of her ailing mother. She had to step down from the title of Queen of Hearts, and the stepping down party and farewell bash was held at the Lake Lounge on Saturday, November 19. A previous commitment prevented my ap-

pearance, but I understand that there were few dry eyes in the house!

I can understand her reason for leaving, but Cathy's departure will leave a void — a vacuum, if you will — throughout the Bay Area. Cathy was a rare breed, to say the least! Correct that! She is a rare breed. Down to earth, always honest, concerned, straightforward in thought, word, and deed, one always knew just where one stood and just where Cathy stood. There was

never any backtracking, promise-breaking, or going back on her word. Royalty in the East Bay is losing a great person! *Au Revoir*, Cathy, and Godspeed!

SINGLETON!

(And Then There Was One Nose?)

Originally it was to have been Stephanie St. James and Tommy Rose doing the entertainment circuit throughout the good of U.S. of A. Then it was to have been Stephanie, Tommy, and

(Continued on next page)

Gay Voices and Visions

Gay Voices and Visions

(Reclaiming Our Own) will be a study circle for Gay men. Drawing on the breakthroughs of 19th and 20th Century Gay mystics and visionaries — Walt Whitman, Edward Carpenter, Gerald Heard, Harry Hay, Lee Heflin, Mitch Walker, etc. — the group will explore the evolution of Gay consciousness and Gay espirit during the past century. The group is limited to twelve Gay men will-

ing to make a commitment for eight consecutive weeks.

If interested please sign up before the first meeting which starts January 13, 1984, and meets every Thursday 7-10 PM near downtown Berkeley. For information call Ben Brody, 548-7570. There will be a cost for reading materials, otherwise the group is free of charge. Sponsored by Treeroots, a non-profit corporation dedicated to furthering Gay spirit work. ■

Women in Solano

Women Preferring Women is growing! The Solano County support and social group announces an alternative meeting every Thursday evening in Vallejo (Fairfield meeting on Wednesday evenings). Both Fairfield and Vallejo meetings are held weekly in local homes, with a monthly potluck to draw everyone together.

December discussion topics will include "Meeting Other Women: What are the options?", "Why Gay rights legislation?", and "Bisexuality."

December 7th will be WPW's monthly potluck. An after Christmas Blues Social is scheduled for December 23. A New Year's Eve party is in the planning.

All women choosing to love

women are invited. Meetings are designed to be supportive of women exploring a new relationship, and fun for women already in couples. All meetings are free; wheelchair accessibility varies. For more information call (Vallejo) 707/643-0626 or write P.O. Box 73, Fairfield, CA 94533. All inquiries are confidential. ■

East Bay Gay Demos

The EBL/GDC, the only such organization for Lesbians and Gays in the East Bay, will have its second annual Holiday party on Saturday evening, December 10, at 8 PM, at 2916 Martin Luther King Way (formerly Grove Street) in Berkeley. Admission is free, and all interested are invited to attend. Info: 849-3983 or 843-2459. ■

Pumps

By Dug Figley



Who needs goldfish?

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Cadets Greet Variant Lifestyles

East Bay Police Open to Gay Sensitivity Training

Tom Brougham and Kerry Woodward, members of the East Bay Lesbian/Gay Democratic Club, recently led a sensitivity training session for police cadets in Oakland. The four-hour session was part of a state mandated program which requires sensitivity training for police personnel in what is referred to by the state as "variant lifestyles."

Sensitivity training consists of three segments: Perceptions; Stereotypes, and Definitions; Sociology, Individual Awareness, and Evolution of the Gay Community; and Crime Situations and Strains Between the Gay Community and the Police.

About 30 students took part in the training, most coming from the Oakland Police and the Oakland Schools security force.

A few came from other parts of Alameda County. According to Woodward, most of the trainees were quite bright and generally broadminded. "They were highly motivated to participate in the training, and it was a positive experience."

Brougham felt the training left the cadets with several basic ideas: first, that it's difficult to



Tom Brougham



Kerry Woodward

Film Entries Sought

Entries are now being accepted for the 8th San Francisco International Lesbian and Gay Film Festival, June 18-24, 1984. Held each year during San Francisco's Lesbian/Gay Freedom Celebration, the Festival brings together the best in feature, documentary and short films by and about Lesbians and Gay men. The Festival has been established by Frameline, a non-profit media organization, to develop an audience for Lesbian and Gay cinema and to promote

a demand for quality productions and wider exhibition both within and outside the Lesbian and Gay community.

Presented at the Castro and Roxie theatres in San Francisco and at the Pacific Film Archive in Berkeley, the 1983 Festival included over 60 film and video works screened to audiences numbering more than 7000.

Awards will be presented to outstanding films in the categories of feature, documentary and short films. The deadline for entries is May 1, 1984. Formats accepted are 35mm, 16mm,

super-8 and $\frac{3}{4}$ " video cassettes. For more information and entry forms contact: Frameline, P.O. Box 14792, San Francisco, CA 94114, (415) 861-5245. ■

Black & White Xmas

The South Bay chapter of Black and White Men Together will hold its first Christmas party on Saturday, December 3 at The Broadway, 1205 The Alameda, San Jose. Cocktails 7 PM, dinner 8 PM, dancing 9 PM. Tickets \$10. Info: (408) 356-6932 or (408) 277-0644. ■

some back ducats. So, if your establishment has a DJ, expect to pay!

My life would be very empty if I had nothing to be sad about. But, I manage to smile anyway. Love,

Nez ■

Happy at 50

White Horse manager Trock (l.) and bartender David happily celebrated the Oakland bar's Fiftieth Birthday last weekend. The White Horse opened in 1933, and although Trock wasn't there at the time, he swears the bar has been Gay since its inception.

A present resident of Walnut Creek was an employee of the bar in 1938 and explained that the building at that time was divided in three, with a Chinese restaurant in the back and a liquor store in the middle. The bar was up front and served straight clientele until 10 PM, when Gays would drift in.

There is no such division today, and large numbers of Gays enjoy the homey comfort of the White Horse's log-burning fireplace and friendly customers. It's a rare Gay bar that's been around so long — Happy 50th, White Horse! ■

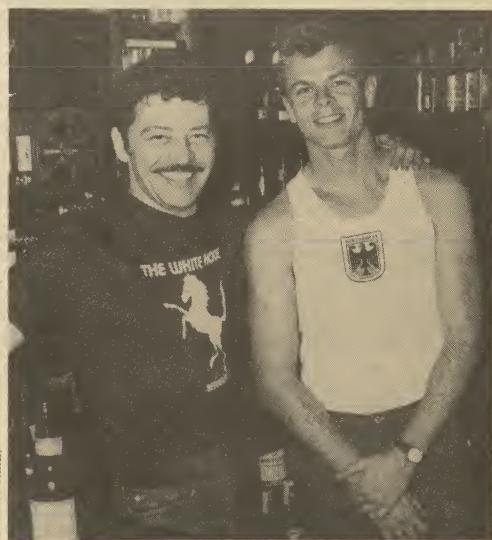
OAKLAND

(Continued from previous page)

Lady Cathy hitting the lime-light across the country. Stephanie fell by the wayside. Lady Cathy must return to her home. Will Tommy Rose be a solo stellar attraction? I won't bet that she won't! As is her wont, I think she will!

ERSATZ! (A Percentage Nose?)

"A Word to the Wise" Department: I read in a local weekly here — *The Montclarion* — that ASCAP does indeed want its royalties on discs spun by DJ's! A local establishment learned that recently and had to cough up



(Photo: Rink)

EAST BAY

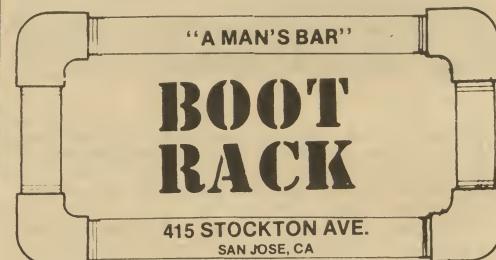
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GRAY AREA REPORTER

ENTERTAINMENT

STAGE

Main Stage Hit at Rhino

Log Cabin Laugh-In

by Sue Zemel

Theatre Rhinoceros' mainstage production of Jane Chambers' *A Late Snow* warms the body, if not the bones. This extremely well-acted ensemble piece, impressively directed by Kris Gannon, focuses on the lives and loves of five women, who wind up stranded for a night at a lakeside cabin.

"The trouble with a late snow," observes Pat, the most ironic of the group, "is it's unexpected and messy." As is one of Chambers' funniest, if not most emotionally satisfying plays.

The action revolves around Ellie, a closeted college professor, who is supposedly attending a conference in Philadelphia. Her present lover, Quincey, an adoring "militant" young Lesbian, has bought an antique cupboard from Pat, Ellie's ex-lover, an alcoholic, who is wonderfully sarcastic. The two women deliver the piece of furniture to the cabin, and surprise, surprise, guess who shows up? Ellie and Margo, a recluse writer, whom Ellie intended to woo at her weekend hideaway. Just to further complicate matters, Perfect Peggy, Ellie's ex-college roommate, a suburban housewife, who has spent her adult life denying her feelings for women, arrives on the scene, having left her husband.

"Excuse me, are you one of them?" Perfect Peggy panics. As the spaghetti stirs, and the

plot thickens, we discover who wants who, why, and why not. Relationships are precarious, people change, and they don't change, everyone tries to do the best they can, and sometimes it's enough, and sometimes it isn't. "It's hard to make anything last . . . a marriage, a job . . ." Pat sadly muses.

Jane Chambers, a professional writer of soaps, which may be her undoing as a serious dramatist, deftly handles the dialogue between her characters. The play clips along, the timing is good, and there is a nice balance between tension and humor that keeps things interesting.

Chambers, however, runs into trouble when she attempts to get "heavy." For example, a few minutes into the play there is an exchange between Ellie and Pat. We learn that Pat, driving drunk, has killed a



Snowbound in Laughland. The cast of *A Late Snow*: (l. to r.) Michelle Simon, Gail Golden, Anne Darragh, Deborah Spector, and (seated) Allison Studdiford. (Photo: Mark I. Chester)

friend of Ellie's, whom she had seduced to make Ellie jealous. Chambers, tending toward melodrama and cliche, does not do justice to this intense revelation, and leaves her audience holding an emotionally overloaded bag. While she is adept at identifying complexities and complications, Chambers falls short in her attempts to explore them.

The five actresses, Allison Studdiford (Quincey), Michelle Simon (Pat), Gail Golden (Ellie), Deborah Spector (Margo), and Ann Darragh (Peggy), put in first-rate performances, giving richness and dimension to their characters. No doubt they will get even stronger as they settle into their roles this month. It is a pleasure to see such high-quality ensemble work on Theatre Rhinoceros' stage.

Though David Brune's multi-level set convincingly creates a cabin environ, it seemed slightly cumbersome and hard to move around in.

A Late Snow is an entertaining, if not avalanche-provoking piece of theater. Bundle up, and get over to Theatre Rhinoceros to see it. ■

Camp Si, War No

by Steve Warren

If Gay theatre has become so politically correct that it doesn't contain enough camp for your taste, Teatro Gusto fills the gap with *Picnic on the Battlefield*.

Written by Spanish playwright Fernando Arrabal in 1952 when he was 20, *Picnic . . .* is about a soldier whose bourgeois parents visit him at the front line for a Sunday outing. An "enemy" soldier joins the party and the two young men realize how much they have in common — so much that Mama tries to do some matchmaking between them.

While the audience gets the point in far less time, the soldiers eventually conclude that the

people who do the fighting in a war have nothing to fight about. Then the shooting starts.

The hour-long play is performed twice each night, in English at 7:30 and in Spanish at 9. Two principals are in both casts while the other two change. There's a better mother — Anita Quintanilla — in the English version (Adela Marquez is too large for the role's physical demands and her paint-by-numbers makeup is grotesque), and a better enemy soldier — Mario Zapien, who brings a welcome touch of subtlety — in the Spanish cast.

As father and son, Herbert Siguenza and Rodrigo Reyes set the style for the show; and they

too tone it down somewhat in Spanish (the demands of machismo?), Siguenza reducing his excessive volume and Reyes camping a bit less.

It's the slapstick approach of director Jaime Jaimes more than the content that gives the play a Gay air, although it does begin with the soldier singing,

"Around the corner, under a tree, A sergeant-major made love to me." (That's the English version; the Spanish is less blatant.)

The show works equally well in either language. How well that is depends on your preference for broad comedy (I don't care much for it — can you tell?) and your interest in a script that may have had some bite 31 years ago when it was unusual to be against war, but seems hopelessly naive today.

Arrabal has gone on to weightier, more complex work, and so should Teatro Gusto. ■



Gay Air on the Battlefield. Maria Zapien and Rodrigo Reyes in Teatro Gusto's production of *Picnic on the Battlefield*. (Photo: K. Bertolucci)

The Hunter Gets Caught by the Game

by John F. Karr

When Lenya played Kurt Weill the Louis Armstrong record of "Mack the Knife," the always flexible composer said, "Es geht doch anders;" it can be done that way too. In Armstrong, though, Weill had a professional musician who treated the music with respect, adapting it to another idiom with a skill that clearly voiced the composer's original intentions. God knows what Weill might have said of the S.F. Repertory Theatre's butchery of his opera in collaboration with Brecht, the three-act *Rise and Fall of the City of Mahagonny*.

I can't understand why the theatre management, viewing the show at dress rehearsal, didn't say, "We can't present



Follies Netted. Camille Howard (l.) recites songs written for Lotte Lenya to sing, and eschews the whiteface worn by the cast of S.F. Rep's *Mahagonny*, just two more follies contributing to the work's demise. (Photo: E. Shukert)

this!" and cancel the run altogether. People who don't already know the work will see it as Brecht and Weill's failure, most unjust, and people drawn to the S.F. Rep by the piece's reputation are unlikely to return to the theatre, given the standard of this production.

In 1927 Brecht and Weill wrote *The Little Mahagonny*, a cycle of six songs linked by orchestral interludes. Played in a boxing ring, the brief work showed the consequences of a resort, The City of Nets, which dispensed for a price anything its clientele desired. Unlimited freedom brought overindulgence, immorality, bankruptcy, and chaos. The city consumed and destroyed itself.

The show was consciously lowbrow, including "pop" tunes such as "The Alabama Song" (written in the conventional key of G!) with others in a bastard English. Performed in a boxing

ring, and in between atonal, "serious" works of the day (by Hindemith, Milhaud, and Toch), *The Little Mahagonny* was a scandal and a success, establishing Weill as an *enfant terrible* for his use of jazz, and solidifying Brecht's growing reputation.

I assumed the S.F. Rep was mounting this version, rather well-suited to its resources. Instead, they laid hands on the three-act *Rise and Fall* which was written following *The Little Mahagonny*'s success. This is opera at its most demanding, intellectually and musically sophisticated, and requiring a cast of professionals able to meet its difficulties.

Among S.F. Rep's many follies concerning this production (besides choosing wrongly between the one-act and full-length work) are a reduction of the orchestral score to solo guitar. (Continued on next page)

Dial Tone Missed in Bad Mix

by Paul-Francis Hartmann



Murder Without Grace. First-timers "oohed" and "aahed," but those who'd seen the movie felt they'd gotten a wrong number.

As we were walking away from the Geary Theatre the other night, my friend said, "There was something wrong with the play. What was it?" By the time we ransomed our car from the garage, the question had been probed, bounced in the air, and left unresolved. Between us there was no occasion, nor need, to mention *Dial "M" for Murder* again.

We like a night out, we like to go to legit theatre, we are boosters of ACT, which seldom disappoints so badly we would consider forswearing the theatre. Still, our five-minute discourse was commentary sufficient for this evening.

But a play reviewer has a more telling charge. He speaks to another — to recommend or not, to throw bouquets or overripe tomatoes. One likes to think a more select sensitivity will be unraveled, will display itself for both play-goers and play putters-on. And that initial spontaneous reaction is the point of must return for the critic: is that "something wrong" of magnitude or minimalism?

To the contemporary mind, image, memory, and imagination *Dial "M" for Murder* is a technicolor Grace Kelly/Ray Milland/Robert Cummings de-

tective/thriller movie. To film buffs it is a choice Alfred Hitchcock creation. Any group who puts on the 1952 stage version must today play it against that backdrop, or negative (ala photography) image. In itself — outside its cleverness — the play has little to recommend it (but it is so cleverly clever that might be enough). However, once one knows the shell game of the "latch key" — who got it, how, and by which door — the play watching is sheer exercise. Since we know the true villain from the first, the suspense of the play hinges on the "latch key" riddle. For those who don't know the key, last week's ACT opening was an exhilarating thriller — those people "oohed" and "aahed" and "yipped" in the play's closing minutes. Without that cover, experiencing *Dial "M" for Murder* is like looking at a soufflé that hasn't risen. The ingredients are exposed for analysis.

That "something wrong" then takes on a greater significance. If *Dial "M"* is old news — without suspense — we are forced to look at other qualities. Something was wrong with ACT's casting. As the villain, Peter Donat is nothing less than brilliant — his exquisite talent

directorial prize. I've seen three others, including this, which make me fearsome of her name on a program. Costumes were pert yet out of place, the set awkward in its definition of space and the guitar accompaniment pitiful.

MAHAGONNY

(Continued from previous page)

tar; the abridgement of the work to ninety minutes, retaining famed music but jettisoning narrative sense in many instances; speaking dialogue written to be

"My doom was sealed as soon as I tried to buy happiness with money."

Jimmy Mahony in *Rise and Fall* . . .

sung without discarding its rhyme scheme or rhythm, resulting in stilted dialogue with a style frequently as deadly as a choral reading; putting white-face on the actors (Brecht's alienation effect is a bit more sophisticated than the removal of facial features); choosing a cast unable to sing, act, or even comprehend what the show is about.

I didn't see the show for which Michelle Truffaut won a

One of the modern era's most exciting and meaningful works has been totally blighted in the production. What commitment to Brecht's politics or Weill's music could have caused such blindness? Was it ego or economics which allowed this travesty to be presented? ■

J.F. Karr

Mahagonny

S.F. Repertory

Through January 1; 864-3305

demands we watch with rapt attention. But given the terms of the play, Donat is too old for the part. He is and looks post-middle age; the part, we are told in the play's first minutes, is a just-a-year-out-of-the-circuit tennis bum. And here's where the problems seem to begin. His wife, played by Barbara Dirickson, looks the right age but plays it much older to suit the real-life age of her co-star. Meanwhile, her lover in real life is young and handsome (also made to look older, but it doesn't work).

As a result Dirickson looks very uncomfortable in the role, at times embarrassingly strained. The Grace Kelly look-alike is played upon — but in exploiting this echo, Ms. Dirickson loses on too many fronts. There are moments when she sounds like Ethel Merman in *Medea* and early moments when she's swirling about like a be-blonded

TV Loretta Young. In the late second and third acts, Dirickson's main expression is a painfully pinched one (her range is solidified into a permanent post-shock therapy look). They have her looking like the Grace Kelly of *Country Girl*, with the mannerisms of Olivia de Havilland in *Snake Pit*.

Dial "M" is cleverly clever, but if you know the game, you're dependent on fascinating acting, and ACT's company bumps into trouble with their casting.

And all the while Donat is twitting about in relentless brilliance. Could it be that Ms. Dirickson is just fucking mad at all her co-star's high-wire fuck-over? Or put it another way: Donat's face is like a nonstop video game — all movement and lights; Ms. Dirickson has a puss on.

Hence a satisfactory chemistry has not been orchestrated. Some would say I have but over-picked apart some incidental sour notes. If one didn't know the story I would concede. But it seems to me that for the play to "work" in 1983, a producer/director/actor and all the rest have to accept as a given that the

plot is a known and take it from there. Those sour notes then magnify into some unsatisfying chords that mar a production seriously. ■

Dial "M" for Murder
ACT
Through February 2; 673-6440

point. The newlyweds are grossly undercharacterized. Moon Hawk is an ex-junkie poet, but he doesn't have much passion for anything. Anemone is troubled by her mother's prostitution and her father's alien values. She has doubts about Moon Hawk, too, but marries him anyway. The lights dim to black as the newlyweds halfheartedly clasp hands from across their wedding bed. Playwright Edling establishes meaty conflicts in the first act and resolves only half of them in the second. Despite some imaginative characterizations, *The Grass House* feels like a play from which all the wrong scenes were cut. ■

The Grass House
Magic Theatre
Through December 4; 441-8822

When In Doubt, Get Married

by Bernard Spunberg

Wedding bells peal for Anemone and Moon Hawk in Adele Edling Shank's *Grass House*, the latest in her series of plays depicting aspects of California life. The shindig draws a motley crew to a pot farmer's redwood-paneled house in the woods. Penny Mitropoulos brings emotional honesty to her portrayal of a whore with strong shoulders, open ears, and a heart of flesh and blood. She is accompanied to the wedding by a paraplegic (why paraplegic?) woman friend, played by Mary

McKuen, whose resourceful characterization finds more meaning in the role than the playwright. Paul Drake's blustery, self-righteous farmer assumes his wife's commitment to the farm is equal to his own, while Elizabeth Pearson's exhausted, embittered farmer's wife comforts herself with astrological platitudes. Shank misses opportunities to dramatize conflict and theme. The bride's father — a judge by profession — has never met her. Though his conflicts with his daughter and the pot farmer are touched on, they never heat to the boiling

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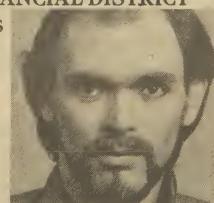
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Goode and Sorry

It's no secret that Joe Goode is an unusual dancer. His 6'3" height is extravagantly tall for a dancer, a feature exaggerated by his gangly, loose-jointed movement. In a field given largely to the abstract he is openly personal. He's unabashedly theatrical as well, talking to his audience and motivating his dance with an assortment of self-produced sound effects and dialogue. This peculiar and unique combination has given Goode his own niche in San Francisco's modern ballet world, a niche that is hard to label. Goode himself can't decide if he's presenting theatre pieces performed by a dancer or dance pieces performed by an actor. His audience has a chance to make up their minds when Goode presents a new program of works, including his first group dance and a solo performed to Brenda Lee's recording of 'I'm Sorry,' at the New Performance Gallery from December 7 through 10.

"Now that I've done it," Goode told the Bay Area Reporter, "it seems to be about growing up Catholic and Gay in the South. You're told two things — to do as you're told and to apologize when you don't do as you're told.

"My solo goes into all the different aspects of being sorry as a point of view. It's dark and funny — a weird combination, but that seems to be a trademark of my work. It starts off at a heated place, with parental anger, and goes on to list all the things I'm sorry for, building up to the climax of Brenda Lee's recording.

"The character is more clear-



No Need to Apologize. Joe Goode brings Gay angst, female emotionalism, and Brenda Lee to his new program of dances.

ly drawn than my earlier solos, more articulate. I was unsatisfied with dance that was not used to talk about something, and I've gone forward in this piece. There's more theatre and more dancing.

"My new group piece is called Elements of Monologue. In it I investigate male angst — and I'm the only male dancer with four women! They provide an interesting blend of female emotionalism which comments heavily on what I do.

"It's been fascinating to transmit my style to four stylistically formed women. I tried to translate their style to my form. They aren't actors, yet I directed them heavily. I shared my pro-

cess with them and they interpret it their way.

"The spoken monologue has provocative images. One of the lines that we explore is '... make a sacrifice for him...' I begin the monologue and the women blend in, so we can explore it from many angles, turn the picture inside out. Each dancer can impose their own drama upon the others. It's a provocative mix of dance and theatre."

Joe Goode and Others present an evening of works by Goode at The New Performance Gallery, 17th near South Van Ness, at 8:30 PM, December 7-10. Tickets \$7, Wed/Thurs; \$8 Fri/Sat; at BASS, STBS, or 863-9834.

Swinger & Swingette

"Long time no see," said Gail Wilson when she turned up at the Bay Area Reporter offices. But she provided her own explanation, "Longtime no sing." It's true — with the exception of a summer date in the Russian River, La Wilson has been missing and missed for months. She's back now, with a flurry of December concerts that have a special bonus.

"I needed a break to work on some new material," the chipper

chanteuse confided, "and I've been without a pianist for some time. Then my friend David Chester became available for December and I grabbed him. My audience already knows David — he composed 'California' and that jiv 'Swingtown,' which everyone assumes is a 40's standard. I'm thrilled to be working with him again; he did the arrangements for Swing, a trio I toured with a lot."

I wanted Gail to tell me everything about the new show. What is she singing? What is she saying? What color will her hair be?



Checkin' into Swingtown. Composer David Chester, who wrote "Swingtown" for Gail Wilson, will accompany Wilson's December shows. he's brought new tunes, too. (Photo: Rink)

It's Still Forbidden

Forbidden Broadway, the musical spoof of Broadway stars and Broadway shows, has been held over through Sunday, January 1 at the Plush Room.

Originally scheduled for a 6-week run, the show proved so popular that the engagement has been extended. Beginning December 20, performances will be Tuesdays through Fridays at 8; Saturdays at 8 and 10:30 and Sundays at 3 and 7 PM. There will be no performances Christmas Eve, December 24, but the regular 3 and 7 PM performances on Sunday, December 25 will take place. Tickets for both Gala New Year's Eve performances (including champagne) are now available at \$25 each at all BASS outlets, or by phoning 885-6800

"My hair is the same," she said. "I don't know what I'll say, but I know what I'm singing. Beside doing the arrangements for all the songs, David's written several new ones for me including 'I'm Checkin' Out.' I've got new ballads, like 'Lush Life,' and new contemporary songs, like Shel Silverstein's 'Balled of Lucy Jordan,' which Marianne Faithful recorded.

"And I've got new comedy," the madcap miss trilled. "It's my high school reunion. I go back to see how all those people turned out. It's all done in early 60's song hits, but we've rewritten the lyrics, as usual. It's wild, but I'm most pleased that David is with me."

Mr. Chester is a twenty-nine year old Los Angeles native who became a fan of Swing when he saw them perform. At the same time, the group had called the music school Chester attended, requesting an arranger. "I was recommended," Chester explains, "so I met them."

Although he'd done arranging for both Swing and Gail's solo act, this is the first time he's actually worked with the singer live. He's played for Sally Kellerman, provided music for Royal Viking cruise ships, and is working on recording a video of his songs. If they're as lively as "Swingtown," it's sure to be a hit. Ditto the upcoming dates with Gail — she's long overdue to match licks with a pianist who's got her high spirits and swinging sense of rhythm.

J.F. Karr

Gail Wilson and David Chester open at the Plush Room Monday, December 5, 9:30, \$6. They return December 12. They're at Fanny's December 11, 3:30 and 5 PM, \$4; and at 132 Bush, December 13-15, 6-8:30 PM, \$3.

FILM CLIPS

REVIEWS BY MICHAEL LASKY AND STEVE WARREN

A Christmas Story

Yule Betchum, Red Ryder

A Christmas Story is a seasonal sleeper that arrived unscreened and unheralded, but deservedly drew a sold-out house when I went to catch it in its second weekend.

If you appreciate cornball nostalgia of the *Father Knows Best* school, you'll love this meticulous trip back to the 40's from the pen of Jean Shepherd.

As the author narrates profusely we watch his surrogate Ralphie (Peter Billingsley), perhaps eight years old, endure the agonizing wait to see whether Santa brings him what every boychild of the era was taught by comic books to crave: "the holy grail of Christmas gifts, the Red Ryder 200-shot range model air rifle."

Melinda Dillon plays his mildly ditzy but ultimately wise mother, and Darren McGavin is the foul-mouthed but warm-hearted "old man."

The dogs next door, the bully down the block, the teacher at school, the surrealistic Santa downtown, and the little brother who eats like a pig are among the landmarks and land mines of a childhood December that passes charmingly but all too quickly.

Sure, it's typical "nuclear family" shit from the days when sexual roles were clearly defined, but **A Christmas Story** rates a solid three stars on a scale of four, and nostalgia buffs will rate it even higher. ■

(Empire, Serramonte) *S. Warren*

Boat People

Slow Boat from China

Not so much about the boat people as it is about where they came from and why, **Boat People** was made by Hong Kong filmmaker Ann Hui in Communist China. With moments of compelling drama, the film's overall structure and insistent polemic message seem so overwhelmingly propagandist that credibility is jeopardized.

A Japanese photojournalist has



Spanish Active. Gay Congressman Jose Sacristan (top, you should pardon the expression) faces political and marital consequences after coming out as a result of his affair with hustler Jose L. Alonso in *The Deputy* (*El Diputado*). With all due respect to director Eloy de la Iglesia for having the courage to make this film in Spain before Franco's body was cold, Costa Gavras he ain't. Sacristan is such a bland actor it's hard to imagine him being elected anything, much less spearheading the socialist party. Iglesia makes some important points, but not without bringing the entertainment to a screeching halt to do it. ■

(*Roxie*, Dec. 2-5)

S. Warren

One Night Stands

Films of Gay Interest This Coming Week
by Michael Benzry

Friday, December 2: (York) Two rock operas: *Rocky Horror Picture Show* features sweet transvestites from the transsexual galaxy Transylvania. With *Phantom of the Paradise*.

Friday-Monday, December 2-5: (*Roxie*) *The Deputy*. A Spanish congressman comes out of the closet shortly after Franco's death. Highly praised, powerful, and realistic; unlike the drivel American cinema produces with such themes.

Monday, December 5: (York) *Daughters of Darkness* and *Cat People*. Two violent sexual films, the first with

Lesbian vampires.

Tuesday, December 6: (Strand) A number of films by Kenneth Anger including the homoerotic *Scorpio Rising* and *The Inauguration of Pleasure Dome*.

Wednesday, December 7: (York) Evelyn Waugh's *The Loved One*, screenplay by Christopher Isherwood, is an outrageous comedy about an ultra-cemetery never-never land featuring a Gayish Rod Steiger and Liberate. With *Lolita*.

Thursday, December 8: (Strand) To be naive, innocent, and Gay. *Song of the Moon* is a delightful cross between a Gene Autry movie and Gay porn. A Very Natural Thing was the first positive mainstream American Gay film, and as such was picked apart by critics.

The final moments, as the photographer attempts to get a 14-year-old girl and her brother on a boat to freedom, are indeed gripping and the sheer sad human story itself is moving with splendid real life performances.

Yet somehow one gets the feeling from this totally negative viewpoint that there is more than sour grapes at work here. Just how much is fictitious and how much is true we don't know, but this grim film certainly leaves us to wonder. ■

(*Surf*) *M. Lasky*

Cabaret Dates

Valencia Rose. Charles Busch Alone — with a New Cast of Thousands plays Thursday - Saturday through December 10. Gay Comedy Night on Saturday, December 3 with emcee Tom Ammiano and guests Danny Williams, Ruby Rubenstein plus music by the Jon Sugar Band, 10 PM. Memorial Benefit for Esther profits Shanti Project and features Gay dancers and others; 2-4 PM, \$5. *Correct Me If I'm Wrong: Adventures of a Fed-Up Woman!* is Ronda Slater's one-woman stand-up, December 6-7 and 13-14; \$4.

Paul Krassner and Guest provide politics and comedy; Friday 2 & 15. Jane Dornacker is guest; Friday 9 is a surprise. 10:30 PM, \$5. Info: 863-3863.

Baybrick Inn. December calendar: Mondays, Del Rey and the Blues Gators. Tuesdays, Lisa Pawlak. Wednesdays, Debbie Saunders. Info: 431-8334.

Fanny's Thursdays all month, Aldo Bell, 5:30 and 7 PM, free. Pamela Brooks, 8:30 and 10 PM, \$5. Lynda Bergren, Fridays all month, 9:30 and 11 PM, \$5. *Reginald McDonald*, Sunday, December 4, 5 and 6:30 PM, \$3. Info: 621-5570. ■

Latino Artists Against Militarism

An exciting thematic collage of dance, music, theater, poetry and visual arts entitled *Stemming the Tide of Militarism: An Artistic Statement*, will spotlight Wilson Pico, international dance virtuoso from Quito, Ecuador, to be held on Saturday, December 10, 1983 at the Mission Cultural Center, 2868 Mission Street, at 8 PM.

This unique ethnic presentation of Latino artists will include an anti-nuclear theater piece "War Is Not Healthy for Cucarachas & Other Living Things" by Anita Matlos of Santa Cruz and Cara Hill-Castanon of San Jose; plus poetry readings, and visual art (murals and photographs) by Bay Area Latino artists, plus tapestries from Chile.

Calling attention to the singular most important issue of our time, *Stemming the Tide of Militarism: An Artistic Statement* is being produced by TIT Productions as a benefit for *Tenaz Talks Teatro*, a literary publication on the national Chicago Latino theatre movement, printed quarterly within *El Tecolote* monthly newspaper. ■

Women's Crafts Fair

The Fifth Annual Winter Women's Arts and Crafts Fair will be presented by the Women's Building of the Bay Area on December 3 and 4. The wares of nearly one hundred craftswomen will be on display and for sale throughout the Women's Building at 3543 - 18th Street (between Valencia and Guerrero), Entertainers Whoopi Goldberg, Swingshift, Alternative Measures and many others will provide continual performances. Admission, \$1 - \$3, 10 AM to 8 PM on Saturday and 10 AM to 6 PM on Sunday 4. Info: 431-1180. ■

Peace Rock Marathon

More than fifty bands — Reggae, New Wave, Punk and ethnic rhythm groups — will perform at the On Broadway Theatre during a six day benefit to raise money for the publishing campaign of the Poets for Peace.

The Multi-Media Rock Marathon opens at 6:30 PM, Monday, December 5, when Miriam Patchen will sign copies of the *Peace or Perish Anthology*. Admission each evening, 7 PM - 1 AM, is \$5, and \$3 students. Tickets at BASS or door. ■

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PHILIP CAMPBELL

Musical events, like everything else these days, are big business. It seems that to lure the general public from their TV sets requires the promise of big name stars playing well-known works by big time composers. Unfortunately, this also ensures big ticket prices and virtual ignorance of the vast chamber music repertoire.

Experiencing the pleasure of this intimate form of music-making is rare, unless the performance is given by students or amateurs in a conservatory or parish hall.

What a special treat it was, then, to attend two concerts recently sponsored by the San Francisco Symphony. Two very different world class chamber ensembles served as a reminder that less is often much more and good things often do come in small packages.

MY LADY'S CHAMBER

To some, the greatest claim to fame of the English Chamber Orchestra may be that they played at the wedding of Prince Charles or that they inaugurated Queen Elizabeth Hall, ostensibly making them "royal" by association. For chamber music enthusiasts, however, their reputation is justified by their brilliant technical and intellectual understanding of works scored for smaller orchestra.

Conductor Charles Mackerras is renowned for his Janacek interpretations and his opera assignments. He is also a superb Mozartian and I hope he records for posterity as much as possible his intelligent and definitive statements.

The program opened with Wagner's "Siegfried Idyll" (originally scored as a chamber piece) and it set a tone of excellence for the entire evening. It was also a revelation to hear the power and strength of Wagner's thought without the usual overkill of Wagnerian orchestration.

Pianist Emanuel Ax joined with the Britshers for a breathlessly lovely rendition of Mozart's Piano Concerto in E-Flat, K.482. Like an absurdly beautiful music box, each exquisite little tune came tumbling out with precision, wit, and elan.

The inclusion of Delius' "On Hearing the First Cuckoo in Spring" was a charming touch in a concert that already had charm to spare. What often sounds cloyingly precious when performed by a symphony orchestra became a delectably quaint Victorian valentine.

Mozart's Symphony No. 39 closed the concert and underscored all the positive points of Conductor and colleagues. Mackerras clearly has a vision of the composer's elegantly arching train of thought and with the assistance of his finely tuned musicians we heard what should be definitive Mozart. The open-hearted cheeriness of the score could captivate with its warmth while the more subtle moments could insinuate their darker feelings.

The crowd was not large, due in part to poor publicity and horrible weather, but the response was overwhelming. A small-scale evening that yielded some profound insights and entertainment.

VIENNA IN JAPAN TOWN

The Second Viennese School (Arnold Schoenberg and his pupils) used to present intimate orchestral performances called *verein* for select audiences that were not allowed to applaud or publish critical analyses.

weather was fine and the tickets were very reasonably priced. I'm afraid that Schoenberg has been stereotyped as a "difficult" composer. His work is demanding on the listener but the rewards are great.

As fate would have it, though, Schoenberg was the least represented composer of the evening. Due to the illness of one of the ensemble's cellists the program was almost entirely changed. The resulting concert was one of those serendipitous events that turned out fine.

The performance of Max Reger's beautiful Romantic Suite, opus 125 revealed the wonderful talent of this ne-



Mozartian MacKerras. Famed British conductor Charles MacKerras provided a captivating and profound evening with definitive performances of Mozart's music.

When Robert de Leeuw and the internationally famous Schoenberg Ensemble appeared at the Japan Center Theatre as the second event in this year's "New and Unusual Music" series, they recreated one of those stimulating *vereins* and, happily, relaxed the rules. It was perfectly all right to voice our approval and I'm allowed to share the experience.

After the debacle of the "New and Unusual" opening night presentation of Robert Ashley's misbegotten opera/performance piece *Atalanta* I was more than eager to see the Schoenberg Ensemble restore the series to some degree of viability. Only a writer like Fran Liebowitz could demolish that fiasco adequately. On the other hand, even those who came to the Schoenberg "cold" could easily see that this was a concert to be cherished.

The audience turnout was respectable, if sparse, and that's a shame, for the

New Theatre for Fave Stars

Ronn Lucas, the sassy ventriloquist currently featured in *Sugar Babies*, will open the Marines Memorial Theatre's In Concert series with a show on Monday, December 5, at 7 PM.

Billed as the "Voice Wizard," Lucas' talent blends skillful use of ventriloquism, puppetry, comedy, and song in an innovative and technically remarkable show. Appearing with Lucas will be Kate Kiley, who is making her farewell San Francisco appearance before moving to Washington, D.C. She is best known to San Francisco audiences as *Beach Blanket Babylon*'s Queen Elizabeth II and Joan Crawford.

Val Diamond, 1981 and 1982 Cabaret Gold Entertainer of the Year, will share her many talents with the audience at the

glected composer and sent me out later to purchase a recording. What a terrific surprise!

The rest of the concert was also a treasure trove of discovery. Two exquisite lieder from Alexander Von Zemlinsky's Opus 13 and three lieder from Schoenberg's Opus 8 were sung perfectly by soprano Wendela Brongeest. The influence of Wagner and Mahler could be heard but also traces of Ravel and Debussy!

A transcription of Debussy's "Afternoon of a Faun" has been heard before on disc but I was truly taken by the quality of hearing it live. Lean and angular, the translucent sensuousness of the piece made it very easy to imagine Nijinsky steaming up audiences of another day.

That's the real worth in this sort of intimate performance, a sense of immediacy and clarity that is often missing with large scale compositions.

Marines Memorial Theatre on December 12 at 7 PM. Diamond has appeared in *Beach Blanket Babylon* for the past five years and is one of the Bay Area's hottest acts.

Opening the evening will be the saxophone orchestra known as "The Nuclear Whales." The group is a resurrection of the textured saxophone sound of the late 20's and early 30's. This will be *The Nuclear Whales'* first San Francisco appearance.

After the holidays the Marines Memorial Theatre will continue its In Concert series with the best of local, national, and international talent presented in an affordable, legitimate theatre setting, free from the disturbances of cigarette smoke and two-drink minimums.

Tickets at \$9 advance, \$12 at door, are available at BASS or 771-6900. Special price for both shows, \$16.

TONE DEAF TONE DEAF TONE DEAF

Barry Beam's Blueprint for Success

JERRY DE GRACIA



Hits the Right Spot. Barry Beam hits big with the dance beat of "The Ritespot," his new 12-inch single.

Barry Beam's involvement in the local music scene has ranged from production of his own music ("Radio Head" and "WACS in Slacks") to the production of the Lisa hit "Jump Shout" and the high camp of "Castro Boy."

While his past work has been accepted more in the new wave rock scene and his production work for others has involved him with the more dance/disco oriented music lovers, his new release on Fantasy Records under the name Blueprint cuts the sound, or rather mixes it, right down the middle.

The 12" single called "The Ritespot," which features John Hedges of Sylvester fame as associate producer, offers a definitive dance beat along the more traditional lines of heavy percussive/bass sounds overlaid with Beam's not so traditional vocalizing.

The new single should get support from a crossover of dj's as much for its musical appeal as for the fact that Beam, as musician and producer, has paid his dues to the local music scene.

and Steve Berlin, Los Lobos' oddball mix of Tex-Mex rock and pure Mexican hat dance swing wouldn't get them a recording contract in Tijuana, but Slash has always had a gutsy approach to the musicians they sign.

When Los Lobos rock they're in the same league as the Blasters; when they roll the rr's in Mexican it's another story — pure camp.

1 ★ ★

Cold Imagination/Howard Devoto (Virgin Records): On this new 12" release Devoto offers more of his fatally beautiful music that has come to represent a whole new genre wherein dark, somber melodies offer warm instrumentals layered with poems of depression and pain. Tears for Fears, Paul Young, and some of OMD's music falls into this category also, but Devoto has made it a science. Although the style on "Cold Imagination" is reminiscent of much of his other work including "The Rainy Season," "Cold Imagination" is unique and fascinating on its own. The flip side, "Out of Shape With Me," is a great blues-based number reminiscent of the Velvet Underground.

SHORT TAKES

Esteem/Machinations (A&M/Oz Records): With all the music floating around these days it is not surprising that last year's tracks are becoming this year's hits.

Esteem by Machinations, which includes the club mix "Pressure Sway," is full of rich, rhythm oriented music that is easily accessible yet not as commercially oriented as much as other new music, except for "Pressure Sway," which has a Shriekback dance sound.

MARIACHI POWER

And A Time To Dance/Los Lobos (Slash): If the left one don't get you, then the right one will on this Tex-Mex recording by Los Lobos on the Slash label, which claims such artists as X and the Blasters.

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TALES OF TESSI TURA

Military Fantasies

GEORGE HEYMONT

We all know the lure of a good Frenchman in uniform. All those brass buttons, high waistlines, shiny boots and feathered hats (not to mention soft white material caressing firm derriere), help to gussy up the product. Let's not even talk about those French sailors who eagerly step ashore in "the city that knows how" after they've spent months at sea merely hoisting down the decks. The dream is of utmost importance.

Whether or not the goods to back the fantasy lie behind the uniform is another story completely. Thus, it's interesting to note the varying degrees of success in two recent operatic productions which each boast a large chorus of the French military in their ranks. The Met's revival of Donizetti's *La Fille du Regiment* was a major success, although Covent Garden was glad to get this production off its hands a decade ago. I wish I could say the same for the San Francisco Opera's recent flirtation with Offenbach but that show, alas, was sadly on the fritz.



High Note Hooper. "You'll never catch ME burning my draft card!" Dame Joan Sutherland hoofs her way through Donizetti's *La Fille du Regiment*.

BOOM WENT THE DUCHESS!

And with a rather loud thud, too, I might add. I sincerely hope that Terry McEwen got his rocks off while watching his beloved Regine Crespin perform in Offenbach's *La Grande Duchesse de Gerolstein* because it would seem that a great many in the audience were, as the saying goes, not amused. When one thinks of priority dream productions worth importing from other opera companies — even the Frank Corso/Maurice Sendak production of *The Magic Flute* — there can be little artistic justification for the money wasted on this venture.

Rather than the highly-touted, scintillating version of an Offenbach jewel with a so-called legendary performance by a great star, audiences got a silly, juvenile production of a mediocre operetta given a mechanical run-through from a cast headed by an aging diva with few roles left in her repertoire. Sight gags alone do not an evening of opera make. Although stage director Maurice Ducasse left no stone unturned (and milked the curtain calls until they were bone dry) I found it most curious that throughout the evening the laughter on the orchestra floor came primarily from those sections which were filled with

single ticket buyers while the bulk of the subscribers sat in stony silence. Either McEwen has sorely misjudged the standards of his audience or San Franciscans don't think very much of his personal taste in French operetta.

Part of the problem lies in the fact that local audiences have had their fill of *La Grande Duchesse* from repeated performances of the Spring Opera Theatre's production over the past decade — a highly-successful production which was sung *entirely* in English. The other major production of *La Grande Duchesse* recently seen in America (which has toured to many regional houses) employs a combination of dialogue and music sung in French aided by an English-speaking narrator. The result is usually a fast-paced show (as directed by Bliss Hebert) accompanied by a rather tedious aural experience.

The production McEwen imported from Toulouse was primarily in French (with several rather gratuitous English asides thrown in). Most of the fast-paced spoken patter was wasted on the audience and conductor Marc Soustrot's rushed tempos never allowed Offenbach's score to shine. The result was a musical version of *The Three Stooges* with endless bits of schticky by Robert Tate as Nepomuc and occasional pretty

sounds coming from Kaaren Erickson's throat. Although Hubert Monloup's sets and costumes were pretty to look at, the bottom line is that the great Crespin's contribution to the evening was minimal and mechanical. And that was supposed to be the reason for importing this production??? I beg to differ.

RETURN OF THE ARMY BRAT

Infinitely more successful was the Met's *Daughter of the Regiment* with a cast headed by Dame Joan Sutherland and Alfredo Kraus. To everyone's surprise, it was Kraus (a supreme stylist and one of the few superstar tenors who reeks of class) who walked off with the show.

Now in his late fifties, the Spanish tenor delivered a performance which can only be described as a role model for students of singing. The tenor's bumbling characterization was a delight to watch as he gaily romped around Anna Ami's comical sets. The artist capped matters off with a vocal trick at the end of Tonio's big aria which left my jaw on the floor. To see (and hear) Kraus begin his final note rather modestly, standing far upstage, and stride down to the prompter's box holding onto the note while increasing its volume to a full roar was the kind of once-in-a-lifetime operatic experience that explains what bravura singing is all about.

Dame Joan was no less musical, or comical for that matter. Indeed, her second act costume (meant to be all frilly and girlish) almost made Sutherland look like the RMS Mauretania sailing across the stage with the entire maritime alphabet in her rigging. At the final performance of the season the Australian was in remarkable voice: a testament to operatic strength, style, longevity and comedic stage-worthiness. Gwynn Cornell vamped appropriately as the Marquise of Berkenfield while Ara Berberian fussed and blustered as Sergeant Sulpice. Richard Bonynge conducted with a wonderful sense of fun and the audience had a great, great time.

The strength of the Met's *Fille* laid in its genuine star casting and the fact that Donizetti's score contains some stunning music. It is a fun show which (although sung in French) never lost its genuine rapport with the audience. The mark of quality rampant throughout this production was light years above the foolish, unmusical mish-mash Terry McEwen dumped on San Francisco audiences with his misguided choice of *La Grande Duchesse de Gerolstein*.

The moral of the story? If you ain't got it, don't flaunt it. ■

Christmas Concert

The Dick Kramer Gay Men's Chorale will be performing a Christmas Concert several times during December.

The Chorale will sing Britten's "Ceremony of Carols," some Alfred Burt carols, music by Sweetlinck, Handel, and Thompson. Poulenc's "Little Prayers of St. Francis" will be repeated from their previous concert.

All concerts will be at St. Francis Lutheran Church, 152 Church St., at 8 PM, Thursday, December 1, and Friday, December 2, and then Tuesdays, December 6, 13, and 20.

Admission is \$6. The 38 voices have a strong, solid male sound. Christmas carol singing with the audience at the end of the concert will be part of the celebration. ■

BOOK RACK

The First Line of Defense

The Homosexual Network: Private Lives and Public Policy
By Enrique T. Rueda
Devin-Adair Co., \$11.95

by Frank Howell

"There is no question that the homosexual movement has relatively large sums of money at its disposal. Homosexuals tend to be wealthier than the rest of the population and vast sums are generated by homosexuality-related businesses . . ."

"The main resource of funding of the homosexual movement is the American taxpayer."

It is always instructive to see how others view us. Aspects of Gay life we take for granted are frequently quite shocking to the straight world. It was probably inevitable that sooner or later the right wing would produce a massive, heavily researched tome, complete with charts and graphs, designed to "expose" the Gay movement and arouse the American public. Although the man in the street seldom reads such literature, some fiery Southern senator will no doubt insert such material in the *Congressional Record* and a suitable amount of anxiety will be generated.

Enrique Rueda, a well educated and passionately concerned Catholic priest, has now stirred the waters. Rueda is Director of the Catholic Center at the Free Congress Research and Education Foundation. He holds several graduate degrees (Political Science and Theology) and has extensive experience in drug rehabilitation programs. Father Rueda is Cuban and was imprisoned by Communist forces during the Bay of Pigs episode.

Rueda is disturbed because public opinion polls, according to him, demonstrate that the social and political leaders support Gay causes while the public is still horrified by same-sex love. Despite that horror, he is alarmed that American society is gradually surrendering to the queers.

His dissection of Gay society sprawls over five hundred pages and twelve elaborate appendices. Even Gays will learn about many activities and accomplishments they were not aware of. Conservative readers are informed about our subculture and the ideology of the Gay movement. They are provided detailed information about our ties with various religious and political groups that support us.

Along the way Father Rueda is unintentionally amusing. He

tends to preach without really meaning to. He bemoans, "The very fact that no children are produced by homosexual couples increase their opportunity to spend considerable time at bars. This fact probably contributes to alcoholism among homosexuals." He neglects the passionate attempts by Gay couples to adopt children and the frantic battles by Lesbians to obtain custody of their offspring. He also fails to note organizations that provide alternatives to bars, such as A Better Way.

Our guide to this menacing fairyland is horrified by our success in courting the politicians. I suspect he is brimming over with envy. He is upset by "the almost compulsive need of its (the Gay liberation groups) leaders to obtain and publicize the support of influential individuals and organizations." What else would he expect us to do? Any lobbying association worth its salt, including the Moral Majority or any other special interest group, will naturally attempt to score points with legislators. That is how the game is played.

Rueda is especially upset at the success of Catholic Gays who have been able to create such strong fountainheads as Dignity, which receives some support from a priest or nun here and there. He grasps the essential point. If the church finally adopts an enlightened point of view of Gay love, all other social institutions will fall into line. The struggle will be lost for the traditional forces. Therefore, fundamentalist doctrine is the first line of defense.

The earnest priest is also disturbed over the support given Gay causes by various liberal coalitions such as the American Civil Liberties Union and the Americans for Democratic Action. He correctly concludes that the majority of our political strength lies to the left of center.

But Rueda plunges wildly out of control in his concluding

chapter on how the movement is funded. Veteran Gay activists will be astonished to learn from our concerned observer that, ". . . It is reasonable to state that a *quarter of a billion dollars* is spent annually by homosexual nonprofit organizations in the pursuit of their goals." This will be rather surprising news to those who have struggled so hard to squeeze a few quarters out of the homosexual population for their causes, such as members of the San Francisco Gay Men's Chorus. This organization is still struggling with a debt of \$150,000 at last report. Other worthy causes have experienced similar hardships. Gays are often a victim of success, however, rather than failure. There are simply too many homophile causes chasing too few lavender dollars.

In the same paragraph in which Rueda exposes the Byzantine wealth of American fags he admits the budget of the National Gay Task Force is a paltry \$81,875. Surely it takes more financial voltage than this to convert America to our devious ways! Perhaps conservative investigators have not talked to the appropriate fund raisers, like the folks at National Gay Rights Lobby who are constantly making desperate appeals for aid. Where, one must ask, is the mysterious quarter of a billion dollars? Is most of it frittered away at the bars and baths? Products for hair removal? The hairdressers? Clothing stores? Treatment for herpes? Will the wealthy Gay organizations please come forward and display their jewels?

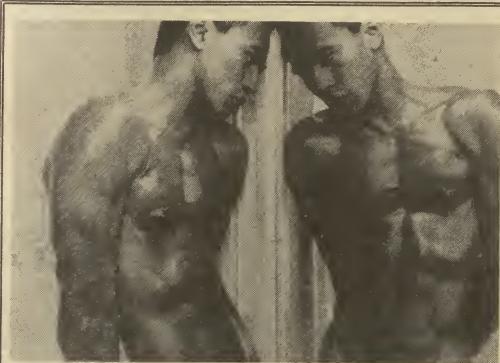
We are also informed that of the hundreds of homosexual groups the one hundred and twenty largest of them are sitting on twenty-four million dollars.

The only other sources for this wealth, according to Rueda, is the tax exemptions that are currently enjoyed by our political, social, and religious associations. But, if this is so, one also notices that right wing institutions like the Moral Majority are not subsisting on food stamps. (In 1982 Jerry Falwell's Old Time Gospel Hour, his television ministry, took in \$56.98 million.) Gay Power, in comparison, is a pale shadow indeed. How many Gay radio and television programs are we able to fund compared to Billy Graham, Oral Roberts, and their cohorts? How many publishing houses?

The fundamentalist segment of America still poses a threat to the sexual revolution, but at the same time we must realize that books like *The Homosexual Network* stand as a tribute to what has been accomplished in the past twenty years. The homophile movement has gained more ground than we ever realized. The reactionary forces also achieved significant gains, but they are slowly realizing that even though the barn door is currently closing, the horses are out and running. We have shot past the point of no return.

Rueda presents the results of his research with a scholarly air of assurance and as much objectivity as we can expect. It strikes me as curious that his presentation stops dead in its tracks with no dramatic conclusion stating that "they" are taking over and what shall "we" do about it. He simply strolls away without further comment. He seems to assume the facts will arouse everyone from William F. Buckley to the local holy roller church.

Rueda's work represents a potential weapon which our opponents can reach for at their convenience. Let us stand ready to have our own facts and feelings effectively mobilized. ■



LAW ON DISPLAY

Photographer Richard Law recently impressed photo fans with a display of his polaroid photographs. These one-of-a-kind (yet reproducible) shots introduced a unique format which proved popular. So popular, in fact, that Law was moved to produce 5 x 7 color blowups of the physique studies and vibrant landscapes that are his subject matter. The results — the color bright, the picture crisp — are on view at Express Photo (Market near Castro), which has just introduced a nearly instant 5 x 7 processing and blowup service. Law's excellent photos are examples of Express Photo's work, and three dozen of them are on display. Law requests models — "Getting models is always the hard thing," he says. He's available for sales, commissions, and model volunteers at 864-0475. ■

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GENE MILLER

A Season of One-Sided Contests

The San Francisco Pool Association's Fall '83 playoffs are nearly over, and the absence of the usual cliffhangers is almost creating a suspense of its own — are we going to have to wait 'til next year for an exciting playoff match? Of the ten matches that took place November 8, 13 & 22, two of them were as close as 9-5, and those two contests (one involving the 3-player Transfer Tabledogs!) were 1st round matches. The most exciting of the four 2nd round matches was Peg's Amazons' 9-4 victory over the Brig Guards. The Arena Warriors fell 9-2 against the DeLuxe Powergliders, and the Rainbow Plague lost by the same score to Febe's. Over at the Stallion, Dave Chua saved his fellow steeds from total annihilation with a win over Colin Bradley, but the Stampede performed as expected and it was all over in ten games.

Hot contests can usually be expected in the semi-finals when the field is cut to four teams playing best-of-three series. This season, however, the 3rd round may be over after the 2nd match, as Peg's went down 9-3 against Febe's and the Stampede overcame the Powergliders 9-4 in the opening contests (2nd matches were played too late for publication — phone J-O-E P-O-O-L for results). If the Stampede and Febe's face off for the city championship, which barring upsets, will be the case, the scoring should be much more competitive.

TOURNAMENTS

At the All Star tournament in Park Bowl's pool room November 19, all eyes were on Dave Timko as he attempted to repeat his performance of November 5 when he won the '83 9 Ball title undefeated (B.A.R. 11/17), but

after two victories, he fell to Peter Fleury and then E.Z., finishing in a 5th place tie with Archie Ravena. Fleury began each of his first three matches with a loss, but recovered each time in the race-to-three format; his final two matches, against Dave Chua and E.Z., were 3-1 victories. This is Peter's second major SFPA title, having won the '82 8 Ball championship. E.Z. finished 2nd, Dave Chua 3rd, Colin Bradley 4th.

The Class A tournament was held on November 13, again at Park Bowl. This is the "little brother" to the All Star, giving a tournament opportunity to those individuals who placed #17 or lower on the win/loss percentage ladder. Matches are 2-out-of-3, and it came down to a battle between me and my 1980 teammate, Frank McGuire. Frank had sent me to the loser's bracket, 2-1, where I defeated Bruce Ann, Lee Larson, and Sam Bridgers, returning to face Frank one more time for the title. I got him 2-0 in the first match, but I still had one ball on the table when he sunk the 8 ball for a 2-1 match victory and his first SFPA title. Sam Bridgers was 3rd, Lee Larson was 4th.

G.S.L. UPDATE

TOM VINDEED

League Meeting at Rawhide

On Saturday, December 3 at 12 noon at the Rawhide, the Gay Softball League will hold its first meeting for the upcoming '84 season. Commissioner Bob Docca informs me that there are many items on the agenda, so be there on time as he will gavel us to order at the prescribed time.

The Cafe Sn. Marcos and Stables Softball teams have opened a Christmas store next to

the cafe on Market Street. It is a fundraiser (travel) for both teams, but 10% of our profits will go to fight AIDS. Stop by and pick up some lights, bulbs and other holiday related items. Many items can be personalized within 24 hours and make great gifts or stocking stuffers.

This past week I met Duke Joyce and he told me that he has moved to Laguna Beach. For those of you who don't know

Duke, he was a driving force within the Community Softball League for the past 10 years, serving in various positions during that time. An avid booster of Gay sports and the Boston Red Sox, Duke will be missed by his many friends within the Community. For those of you in the know, I can tell you he throws a mean left hook! Good luck to you, Duke, you will be missed.

Don't forget your gifts for our "Seniors" at the league meeting. Bill Pielock of the Ambush has collected 18 gifts so far and he tells me there are more to come. That's the spirit we are looking for in our quest to collect 300 gifts. Please give us your support.

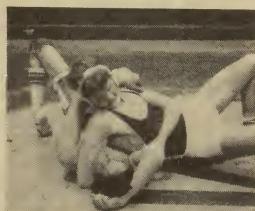
robin sparring.

Incidentally, several of its members have earned medals in open competition of the United States Wrestling Association — the local and national governing body of wrestling.

The club has exciting video tapes of its wrestling meets with the Los Angeles Wrestling Team available.

The club would like to thank Jeff Gould for his recent contribution.

WRESTLING CLUB



The Golden Gate Wrestling Club is working out again Thursday evenings 7 PM to 9 PM at Mission High School. Going on its third year now, the club keeps getting stronger. If you want a little arm wrestling or Indian Leg wrestling to a complete workout come by — the club wants you. The first hour is structured to aerobic exercises so that anyone of any age or condition can join in. The second hour is open to round

Sports Clubs

Different Spokes Bicycle Club, Saturday, December 3: Muir Woods Loop, moderate stops, few low hills, 30 miles, bring lunch. Starts at Tassajara Bakery coffee shop, 10 AM. Contact Michael John, 861-7473.

Sunday, December 4: Crystal Springs, moderate pace with occasional stops, moderate hills, 35 miles. Bring lunch. Meets at Daly City BART, 10:30 AM.

Contact Lenny, 864-1267.

Alternative Decide and Rides meet each Saturday at 1 PM and Sunday at 10 AM at McLaren Lodge, Golden Gate Park.

San Francisco Hiking Club, Sunday, December 4: Garin Regional Park, an East Bay Park in the hills behind Hayward — perfect for a wintery day. Hike past Newt Pond to Oak Hill for vistas of the South Bay. Info: Quentin, 621-3413.



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FRONTRUNNERS

by Rick Thoman

Mayor Lauds Community Service



Frontrunners President Dave Feiger (l.) presents BAPHR President Kent Sacks with a check for \$4,300, raised by GayRun '83 and intended for AIDS charities. FR Treasurer Jay Richards (center) approves the presentation, which capped the group's Tenth Anniversary Banquet.

The Frontrunners of San Francisco held their Annual Awards Banquet on November 19, but celebrated more than just the preceding year's accomplishments. The dinner, held at the Valencia Rose, marked the Frontrunners Tenth Anniversary, an event noted by Mayor Dianne Feinstein, who earlier in the day issued a proclamation designating Nov. 19 Frontrunner Day in San Francisco.

The proclamation listed its reasons for the special day in a series of "Whereas" that recounted the club's developments back to its inception. This was in 1974, when Jack Baker and Gardner Pond began a running class as part of the self-improvement classes for Gay men and Lesbians which were sponsored by Lavender U.

By 1978, weekly participation had grown so large that a formal organization was needed. It was named The Frontrunners.

"Whereas," the proclamation reads, "The Frontrunners has become a large athletic group, renowned for its friendly support, a member of the AAU, a participant in and supporter of other local runs, and the sponsor of its own annual run; and whereas, The Frontrunners are gathering to celebrate the Tenth Anniversary of

their organization with a gala Awards Dinner; and whereas San Francisco is proud to pay tribute to the Frontrunners and to commend its membership for their invaluable public services to our community; therefore be it resolved that I, Mayor Dianne Feinstein, do hereby proclaim November 19, 1983 as Frontrunner Day in San Francisco and do urge its observance to all citizens."

Duly cited for the outstanding community service Frontrunners annually achieves, it was with great pleasure that Frontrunner President Dave Feiger presented a check for \$4,300 to Kent Sacks, President of Bay Area Physicians for Human Rights. The check was a result of money raised by GayRun '83 and is to be distributed by BAPHR to AIDS charities. A special award was also given to Alfred Nella whose CPA firm donated its services in assistance to GayRun '83.

Frontrunner David Abercrombie received the Presidents Award for outstanding service to the Frontrunner organization. A special achievement award was presented to the San Francisco Track and Field Club for their assistance to the success of GayRun '83.

From Castro to Christopher

Photography by Nicholas Blair



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MY KNIGHTS IN LEATHER

The Knight of the Flame Thrower

KARL STEWART

Being thankful was the theme of last week's celebration. Hard to do sometimes, when friends are falling away so quickly; from AIDS, or tragedy, as in Hank and Jimmy's cases. Still, I'm glad we shared this time together, here in the golden glow of Mecca.

BC's Prez Antony Vega and his lover Bob are thankful too, for fraternity simply bubbled up the down staircase at Febe's last Saturday eve. Randy Johnson and DQM Michael hosted A&B's 4th anniversary with food and festivity. Mr. Leather San Diego, Steven, was up. Vern Stewart wore a broad smile, and Kitty Litter stopped by with tales of Modesto's Coronation. While munching morsels at the local Burger King, Phoebe Planters and Ms. Litter were crowned "Queen"(s) of Tracy, CA, by two handsome — and straight — local cowboys.

Fire in My Heart at the Gift Center glowed too in the I-Beam tradition. From a second balcony perch on the 4th floor atrium, we got a perfect view of Jack Williamson's great video, using a great deal of vintage footage, which matched our deco surroundings. Our hosts were beside themselves; Bradley was uncharacteristically frantic; Kellman hobbled madly on his crutches after having wiped out his leg, bringing new meaning to "casting couch." The Gift Center, jammed with nearly-naked men, writhed like a sea of human sexuality. We reached an orgasmic peak when Swedish disco diva Madleen Kane entered.

Ms. Kane's bright mezzo, lithe blonde figure, and flashing rainbow attire are a perfect recipe for success. The crowd yelled for more and she left them simply aflame. They may have to relay the scorched floor tiles.

Backstage Ms. Kane is a gracious, gentle woman with a pronounced and charming Swedish accent. I asked what she was giving thanks for this year.

"I'm grateful for being here tonight, for one thing. I'm very happy to be able to be alive." She went on to explain, "To be able to let out my feelings. Not only being able to sing in my bathtub, but to be able to express my feelings to people." By this time, I'm in love with her nearly purple eyes and the soft Swedish words; they were issued as confection. She continued, "Thanksgiving means to live in peace and harmony with everyone." She slipped away to more camera flash. I floated home with my DQL.

GUARDED KNIGHT

Bridging social vistas has always been a source of fascination to me. One such source is the Imperial Guard, made up and run largely by leathermen. Captain General Jack Goodall is a tall, bearded man of few words. He calmly dispatches his loyal band to guard and protect the persons of the Imperial Family.

The Guard recently were honored by both crowned heads and commoner alike at their 7th anniversary party, held at the Roxy Roadhouse. The focus of

entertainment was a large cast on stage emceed by the inimitable Marlena. Our favorites included Connie and Camille in the lipsynch category. Frau, singing live, did a funny "I Feel Pretty" and Aldo Bell was delightful and dynamic as always. The highlight, by far, was The Imperial Challenge. Once, in the not so distant past, Tony Valentine (Emperor III, ACIE) and Ginger (Empress XIV, SF) challenged one another to a performance contest. This is unusual because while they are both worthy emcees, their performance skills seem to leave something to be desired. What does one do in this case? Simple: dazzle 'em with production. They did. Ginger did three or four costume changes on stage, had a chorus of nearly naked boys (which Lovelash and Ron Ross enjoyed from behind as they watched from poolside windows), and the finale found a cast of thousands (mostly SF's titled heads) on stage singing together.

Not to be outdone, Tony (in drag for the first time in ages, but not the last, I suspect) was shrouded in fog, ruling over a set of cats (among which prowled Margo Moore) while leathermasters kept them at bay on leashes. "Track of the Cats" found same in an orgasmic scene with Queen Toni singing the words.

The audience voted in favor of Ginger. But both deserve a hand for the production values alone. Ginger may take her show on the road. The Guards simply smiled a lot, for they are well loved both No/M and So/M.

* * *

One morning last week, looking for something calm to do after a frenzied evening, my DQL and I dropped by the Academy to roll dice with Adam. The bar is strictly BYOB, but it is wonderfully friendly. So much so that I never did make it upstairs. I noticed hunky men, smiles broadening their cheeks, trooping up and down the stairs.

In the continuing saga of Castro Station's evolution, we welcome Jim Baron to the frontline as their new manager. The Garden Club hasn't missed a beat through all this, you notice.

The Kokpit, at Leavenworth and Turk, is sort of a clearing in the woods. Char, John, and Chuck Demmon have taken over the club, and it's already becoming the social center of that part of the city. December 8 will mark their official grand opening with a festive party.

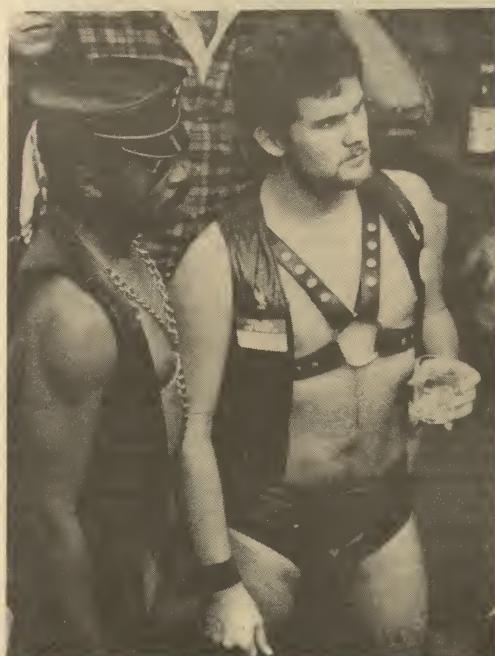
KNIGHT SHADE

Sadie; Sadie, the Rabbi Lady celebrated her birthday with other members of the SPI and some unexpected erotic guests. They weren't in bed but on the screen. Ron Pearson was premiering *Bad Habits*. Ron tells me he wrote and directed this wacky porno flick as well as performing in it. The Sisters are featured in its convoluted plot.

The story finds Ron and his partner, buxom Beau Mathews, fucking in the attic where they are supposed to be cleaning. They find a scroll, planted by the SPI, the contents of which leads the boys on a treasure hunt all over SF, including a trip



The Kokpit Lives! Char and Jon have planned a January Grand Opening now that they've taken over the Kokpit. The joint is jumping in the meantime, officially or not. (Photo: Rink)



Which is Which? That's Daddy on the left; Boy on the right; concerned about placing in the Daddy's Boy contest. (Photo: Rink)

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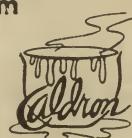
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KNIGHTS

(Continued from previous page)

Sisters' plan is a success and the audience has creamed several times.

The film is slow getting started, but when the SPI are involved, the fun begins. The color quality is surprisingly bright and the soundtrack skillfully avoids the usual tacky disco.

If you'd like to stuff a stocking with a video of this effort, Ron tells me that 10% of the profit will go to the AIDS Foundation. Write: Celsius Productions, Suite 301, P.O. Box 15068, SF 94115.

★ ★ ★

Another Party: Kent Schoeler of the Imperial Guard mounted an impressive luncheon for the royal folks last week. Food was amazing and it was good to see the girls without their wigs for a change. Kent and Eric supplied, sort of, the calm before the Imperial storm coming this month. At this moment, the review board is assembling and potential candidates are being scrutinized, sorely. I promise you it's going to be interesting.

★ ★ ★

It was a winter leather wonderland Sunday in the Eagle's designer patio. LA's San Andreas MC hosted herds of hide,



He Delivers. Mike Merritt (r.) will deliver a bundle raised at the CMC Carnival to the AIDS Fund on December 8 at the Arena, 9:30 PM. Above, he delivers during feeding time with Colt Thomas. (Photo: R. Pruzan)

in his latest managerial acquisition. That would be Mr. Gay SF, Michael Bowman, who will be pouring for you at Febe's from now on.

Friday, December 2, will see the inauguration of a new phenomenon: Couldn't Be More Graphic Video Magazine will make its debut on Castro Street in its own video kiosk. More Graphic intends to be the "Evening Magazine" of the Gay world, beginning at 11:30 AM at 520 Castro.

Friend Robert Kalthoff will be showing his latest work it.

8 PM to 2 AM. Also, a special party for the Imperial Candidates at M&M Warehouse at 10 Rogers on Friday, December 16, from 8 PM; \$6 will get ya buffet, no-host bar, and a star-studded cast on stage.

Play it safe . . . Live it high. See ya in the skins. ■

K. Stewart

Karl's Calendar

Thursday, 12/1: 10th Anniversary. The Endup; New Wave Night, 8pm, 55-cent drinks, food, record raffle. (Continues Friday, entertainment; Saturday Jose hosts "The Dating Game;" barbecue at noon)

AIDS Auction. Febe's, 9pm; auctioneers: Ron Ross, Bob Ross and "Candidates."

Friday, 12/2: Premiere. Couldn't Be More Graphic Video Magazine, 520 Castro (on sidewalk), 11:30am.

The 1st Christmas Show. C'est Si Bon (9th & Howard), 9pm, \$3 with toy, \$5 without; show; hostess: Miss Cowgirl Big D.

Saturday, 12/3: SF Firefighters Toys for Tots. Don Ramon's, 10am-5pm; drink specials, food, music.

Presentation of Imperial Candidates. California Club, 8pm.

Sunday, 12/4: Producer's Party. The I-Beam, 3-6pm, to honor John Vukas; special handling by Fred Badalemento, to be followed by tea dance.

New Works by Robert Kalthoff. The Mirage (22nd at Guerrero); reception noon to 5pm.

Jockstrap Contest National Finals. Endup, 8pm; host: Randy Johnson, \$1000 first prize; drink specials.

State Dinner. The Rathskeller (Turk at Polk), 7:30pm, \$15; buffet, show; no-host bar, 6:30; hostess: Empress Connie.

Thursday, 12/8: CMC Open Meeting. Arena, 9:30pm; presentation of trophies to Mr. CMC winners and checks to their charities.

Holistic Health Fair

Twelve Bay Area holistic health practitioners will present a Healing Arts Fair on December 4 from 1-5 PM at Fort Mason.

The Fair will offer a variety of holistic therapeutic approaches including Rolfing, dance/movement therapy, massage and hypnosis.

The participating practitioners are: Adolphine Carol, clairvoyant reading; Catherine Duncan and Robert Funk, dance/movement therapy and connective tissue work; Rita Ferrucci, healing massage; Leah Hoffman, massage; Jim Janko, orthobionomy and shiatsu; Linda Jennings, reflexology; Greg Jesser, holistic hypnosis; Sarah Levine, nursing housecalls; Tony Piazza, certified Rolfing practitioner; Michele Seville, psychic reading; and Charles Werner, Intuitive Healing and Awareness Counseling. Admissions \$3 by donation, and the Fort Mason location is Building C, room 100. Info: 661-4919 or 333-3373. ■

Where the Boys Aren't. When all the boys were being judged at the recent Leather Daddy's Boy contest, two Daddies snuck off by themselves for a tussle and a tussle. (Photo: Rink)

from head to toe. The beer bust was only the third given here by a southern club. While only one of their members lives in the City now, So/M is a favorite hunting ground for many an LA club member. Al Martino was sporting a "hand-me-down T-shirt" saying "I Do It With Oedipus" . . . having won it fair and square from a fellow Constantine. The shirt is passed on upon the conquest of a member of the sister MC, Oedipus of LA. But love is not the only bridge from LA to SF; the local clubs frequently bike up and down the coast. This weekend many Constantines, BC's, and Warlocks are attending the Oedipus' 25th Anniversary celebration down South, demonstrating the affection our MC's hold for LA/ MC's.

December 8 at the Arena the CMC will present trophies and checks to the winners of the Mr. CMC contest. Michael Merriott will hand over a bundle to AIDS Fund and he'll be receiving "The Real Trophy." The fun begins at 9:30 PM and drink specials will be provided.

Tonight, Thursday, the Frats will gather for an auction benefiting AIDS at Febe's, 9 PM. Randy Johnson is also breaking

mixed media at The Mirage, 22nd and Guerrero. Robert is known for his bar cartoons, but his serious work is moving and even provocative at times. He'll be at Mirage to meet you Sunday, December 4, from noon to 5 PM.

That evening, Ms. Connie, our lovely Empress, will mount a Dinner of State at the Rathskeller for Imperial heads and friends. This event is in memory of Jim Ostlund and will begin at 6:30 with cocktails. Cost is \$15 and includes buffet, entertainment, and an Imperial String Quartet.

December 8 at the Arena the CMC will present trophies and checks to the winners of the Mr. CMC contest. Michael Merriott will hand over a bundle to AIDS Fund and he'll be receiving "The Real Trophy." The fun begins at 9:30 PM and drink specials will be provided.

Look for Rita Rocket's big Christmas Reunion at Castro Station on December 15 from

From *Jail to Jizz*

The John C. Holmes Story: 13 Inches and Me

Het Star Has Gay Sex, Says It Feels the Same

by Harold Fairbanks

In the heterosexual pornographic movie industry, where "actors" literally come and go and the turnover rate for "actresses" is almost as rapid, there is only one durable superstar — John C. Holmes. At 38 he has, by his own admission, been a sexual cinema performer for half his life. So at this point in time it would seem that he might have few career challenges left to explore and nothing further he had to prove. He is, however, particularly interested in the outcome of his latest feature, *Private Pleasures of John C. Holmes* because it is his first all-Gay feature. He's quite proud of it and is not the least concerned that it may antagonize his heterosexual fans.

"Frankly, I don't give a shit how they react," he said. "I think this Gay film is a step above any heterosexual film I've made. It's got beautiful color, guys enjoying what they're doing, and there isn't one scene that doesn't have an actual animal energy. Somebody gave me the opportunity to make a Gay film, to do something different for a change, and I took it. If straight people don't want to see me in a Gay film, that's their own closet. And maybe the closeted Gays who have seen my straight films will decide to say 'screw it' and leap out."

"Basically, I prefer doing heterosexual films because that is my expertise, and I've stayed in that field because the money was always steady. I've always thought it was a shame because there's a large number of Gay people out there from whom I get massive amounts of fan mail, asking me to do an all-Gay film. But the money was never there to make a quality Gay film and I hate making rotten films. This time, with *Private Pleasures*, the right amount of money was offered, I respect the writer and director, and I felt confident about the situation. It's a new format for me, an experimental one. If the Gay community likes the film and accepts it for what

it is and wants me to do another, then I will."

John C. (for Curtis) Holmes has come a long way from Patahala, Ohio, and his record of eleven years of perfect Sunday school attendance. After a stint in the Army and an honorable discharge, he landed in Hollywood at 21 and has been discharging ever since. "I think my cock has been stiff all of my 38 years," he smiles, knowing it wasn't his tall, lanky frame, the twinkling blue eyes or the brown permed hair that got him where he is today. He dresses down on purpose, in baggy jeans and a blue pullover sweater. There's not a hint of his greatest claim

to fame — a thick 13 1/2-inch penis. It opened doors to the porno industry, then provided the perfect doorstop for constant work, even while his personal life was on a rollercoaster of drugs and parties, resulting in sensational murder charges in 1981. He spent a year and a day in Los Angeles County Jail before being cleared. He persevered. He's a Leo.

"A triple Leo," he says confidently, even though he doesn't believe in astrology. "I won't say this has anything to do with my sexual ability, though. I'm just a male whore. Insatiable! To me, love is sex, and I've never, never regretted having 13 1/2



He Said It. "I'm very handsome," says John Holmes (l.), appearing in his first officially Gay film.

inches. It's always been a great conversation piece, a hell of a lot of fun, and has gotten me out of some tight places (and into them, too, if you know what I mean). I don't have any tightness about my foreskin, though. It just slips on and off, like an old married couple."

Warning to the subject of sex, John continued. "After making *Private Pleasures* I discovered one thing. There is no different physical sensation fucking a man or a woman. If either are turned on, their muscles will accommodate my penis the same way. I've never found anyone in movies that could take all of me orally, and not for lack of trying. As for fucking, I've not had a woman who could take it all. But in the Gay film, both Joe Yale and Chris Burns could take it all orally. In one of my straight films some years back, C.J. Laing tried to suck all of me and hurt her throat so bad she

couldn't do dialogue. Most actresses know their limitations and go down on me only a third or a quarter, but we can fake it so it looks like they got more."

"I would say that 50% of the sex shots in heterosexual porno movies are faked. The women don't climax and they don't get into the sex, just block it out of their mind, and so it looks like crap. Sometimes there is an animosity between a girl and guy, or in a Lesbian scene you'll have two girls who don't want to work together. The scene will slow down and you can tell they're not enjoying it. Really, those Lesbian episodes are the hardest to shoot. They get down and eat pussy like they were chewing on a McDonald's burger. They're bored and look it!"

"What's more, some of the men they cast in heterosexual pictures are really ugly-looking dudes. That's on purpose. Men

(Continued on next page)



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HOLMES

(Continued from previous page)

in straight audiences aren't interested in romance or girls having sex, in general terms. They want to see women get *laid*, get *fucked*, literally. That gives the men watching the action a chance to think 'I'm better looking or better hung or I can fuck better than that turd up there on the screen.' The men who appear in Gay films are much better looking than those in straight ones.

"There are a few exceptions," he says, laughing. "Jamie Gillis has a big dick, John Leslie can act, and I'm very handsome!"

"I don't feel threatened by the younger, better looking actors. Not after 19 years in the business. When another guy comes along with 13½ inches, he'll be my replacement. Then I'll quit. Meanwhile, I can perform on demand and frequently. The newcomers can't. Does that make me a bad person?"

★ ★ ★

"In *Private Pleasures* I think my best sex scene is with Joe Yale. It was really hot. What an actor he is! When Joe went down on me, he was like a starving orphan with his first candy cane! Why can't I get the girls who act in the straight films to do that well? They come on the set and they're just duds. We use them once and that's it."

Over the years rumors have persisted that John Holmes was, in fact, appearing in Gay movies under another name and sufficiently disguised, though that 13½-inch cock was betraying his true identity. He doesn't deny the existence of these films. Having made so many, he simply doesn't remember them.

"I've seen the loop of the guy masturbating on the motorcycle gas tank and it's definitely me. I remember making it as a rebellion against gasoline prices. That was my statement to the OPEC nations!"

When asked if he starred in other loops, he evades the issue — although with great candor. "Honestly, I don't know. I was into heavy drugs during that time, so it could have been me.

"I do recall that my very first homosexual experience was in the heterosexual porno movie *Ole* in 1968. It was just one brief Gay scene. That was way before the motorcycle loop. *Ole* was a hardcore feature, but most of the theatres that ran it didn't want the Gay stuff included, so they cut that scene out of the print. Imagine! John Holmes having sex with a man! Even though it

was a logical part of the script, it was eliminated in most of the cities where the movie was shown. And after the motorcycle loop, I did do other masturbating loops and magazine layouts I suspected were intended for the Gay market."

There are as many differences as similarities in making porno films today as ten years ago, he thinks, but one thing that hasn't changed is the police problem.

"I've been busted 13 times myself, and even had to bail myself out and hire my own attorney because the producers are too poor to do it. And I beat every single one of those raps.

"That's the way the laws are these days. You can have porno, you can buy porno, but you're not supposed to make it. There's a lingering police state left over

from LAPD Chief Ed Davis."

Holmes made national headlines in July 1981, when he was charged with five counts of murder as an accessory to a drug-related killing in the Hollywood hills. An addict himself at the time, he had to detox the hard way, in jail. It was, without a doubt, the worst year of his life. He is now totally clean and vehemently against any form of drug use.

Released from jail in the summer of 1982, John made up for his lonely, sexless year by going on a sexual binge. Now he can laugh, though somewhat ruefully, at his experience. "I worked 13 years straight without a vacation before I took that big one." Since his release, he's made two heterosexual porno features as well as *Private Pleasures*. And he's written a book, his life

story. "The publishers already have the first draft manuscript," he says. "It's called *Knave of Hearts* and I thought it might be appropriate to have in the stores for Valentine's Day."

John Holmes is on a second roll, freed of both drug habit and murder charges, as happy and content as he's been in years and determined to enjoy it. "I'll stay in the business and make movies as long as I like doing it. I won't hang around until I have to be wheeled in and dropped on somebody. When I have to apply *Crazy Glue* to keep it up and in, then I'll quit. Maybe I'll even get a facelift. That ought to give me ten more good years!" ■

H. Fairbanks

Private Pleasures of John C. Holmes is currently running at the Nob Hill Cinema.

aisle, backwards and forwards. Saturday's show saw easy erections and prodigious loads from the excited exhibitionists. Ronnettte gets faint when he thinks of John or Francesco coming down to the audience and waving their hard cocks just inches from us. Applause popped when the performers did.

I waited at the stage door to personally thank John for bringing a bit of erotic joy to an otherwise bleak Saturday. I could unconsciously break into my "thighs of gold" pose to describe John, but suffice it to say that his shoulders are broad, he has bruising biceps, a chest to graze on, the kind of *tuchas* that makes you realize why they're called buns, legs that



More Than A Bit of Erotic Joy. Dancer John Kass is Savages' Jekyll & Hyde — offstage, demure; onstage, dynamite. (Photo: B. Checkvala)

boots and presence of Dale Evans. Carl is Savages' nod to those who like the more feminine in male entertainment — the rest of the men are humpy and athletic. Big Z flexes his considerable biceps, John flexes and kisses his considerable biceps, and Ian jumps rope like a pugilist in shorts, a *jock*, and *au naturel*. (Follow the bouncing.) Sort of the Muybridge of masturbation.

Besides the acrobatics, they are masturbating in a spotlight in front of an audience of masturbating men. If you don't like the performer, some of the half dozen men in visual proximity will amuse you. It's a no-frills show — one by one the men ascend, from about 9 PM to 1 AM, and they strut and stroke their hour upon the stage, in the

bring to mind the very form of symmetry — I could suck off this man's kneecaps and be a happy person.

Offstage, John is warm and sweet and reminds me of a lamb with his short curly hair and big deep eyes; onstage, he is a fantasy finder encouraging men to find their fantasy in him. John told me that he is a dancer, and the objectivity that a dancer must possess when viewing his or her own body forms his performance. When John said he wanted to combine dance with his sex act and strike out on his own, I suggested that with his expertise and experience he could form the first dance-sex troupe. That company would give Chippendales a run for their money.

Though the live show at (Continued on next page)

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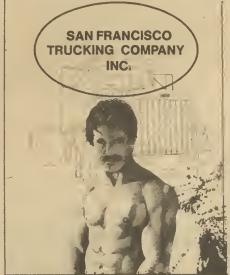
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ADDRESS _____	STATE _____	
CITY _____	ZIP _____	
NO. OF ISSUES _____	CLASSIFICATION: _____	AMOUNT ENCLOSED _____

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Deliver or mail with payment to: Bay Area Reporter, 1528 15th Street, San Francisco, CA 94103

THE GAY BOOK

HERE'S WHAT THEY'RE SAYING ABOUT US !!

THE GAY BOOK
470 Castro Street, Suite 207
San Francisco, CA 94114

We at the ClockWorks are proud - proud of the high quality of our merchandise, and proud of the quality is important to us and that is what we are advertising in THE GAY BOOK. The 24 hour telephone advertiser referral service, and the maps that THE GAY BOOK contains are important reasons why we are with you; they can't help but increase the impact of our advertising, and the return on our advertising dollar.

What we are trying to say Jon, is that THE GAY BOOK is a real winner.

Sincerely,

ClockWorks

THE GAY BOOK
470 Castro Street, #207
San Francisco, CA 94114

Dear Sub,
I just wanted to write to thank you for negotiating a way for Lyon-Martin to participate in the Gay Communities Directory.

Lyon-Martin is a small and still "struggling" women's organization. We are constantly facing the dilemma of how to get the word out while not inflating our minimal advertising and outreach budget. As the only comprehensive medical clinic for lesbians and other women in the bay area, it is essential that women know about us so that they can have access to good and non-judgmental medical care. Although (thank goodness) women are not dealing with the crisis of AIDS, we do have ongoing health care problems that require professional care and attention.

So, thanks again! I will have the artwork to you as soon as I create some clever copy!

Debra Friedland

THE GAY BOOK
470 Castro Street, Suite 207
San Francisco, CA 94114

I want to congratulate you for the fine work you have done for the community, and with THE GAY BOOK. Your dedication to the community is evident in your involvement with Business Associations and Charities. THE GAY BOOK also shows your commitment to the community by providing you all with a high quality business to consumer advertising directory.

Very Truly Yours,

Ken La Pierre
Grand Duchess Kitty X
When Movies Were Movies
2228 Irving Street
San Francisco, CA 94122

THE GAY BOOK
470 Castro Street, Suite 207
San Francisco, CA 94114

ESCAPES Travel Agency is pleased to be associated with THE GAY BOOK. We are impressed with the unique and creative flavor the book is taking on. ESCAPES is excited with your initiative to expand beyond a traditional advertising directory. Thanks for tailoring THE GAY BOOK to meet our local promotional needs. Best regards for a brilliant future.

Sincerely yours,

ESCAPES

THE GAY BOOK
470 Castro Street, #207
San Francisco, CA 94114

We have not been pleased with our advertising campaigns with others in the past as we felt we got little or no results.

Your approach with THE GAY BOOK appears to us to be the answer to correct that situation.

We are happy to be included in your project and will work with you to obtain the desired recognition.

We are confident that you head a great success

Sincerely,
Midtown Stationers
Lee Fernandez, Partner
Chuck Misenheder, Partner

THE GAY BOOK
470 Castro Street, Suite 207
San Francisco, CA 94114

Over the past year and a half I have grown to know you as an honest, reliable businessperson with quality and timely service. It is these qualities that have prompted us to take a leap forward in advertising with you in purchasing the back cover and several CTMs in the best directory to serve our community.

Our advertising has developed from handwritten xeroxes to first quality color work in the past year and we budget carefully to spend well in order to increase our profits. We are confident your publication will prove we have chosen correctly.

Good products, good service, good management and hard work pay good dividends. You have demonstrated that you have the right ingredients for success.

Yours truly,
P.O. Plus, Inc.
J.D. Larson, VP

THE GAY BOOK
470 Castro Street, #207
San Francisco, CA 94114

Pacific Answering Service and our subsidiary, All American Mail Service have been advertising with Jon Berliner for several years. First we were in the Gay Areas Directory when he had been sales manager there, before he started his own business. Now that Jon has started his own business with THE GAY BOOK, we will be advertising with him again in this new business.

We have known Jon for the past four years to be an honest businessman with an integrity few other salespeople seem to have. We normally have had a 1/4 page color ad and a couple smaller black and white ads. But with the start of his own GAY BOOK, we are increasing our commitment to a full page color ad.

In short, we would not be putting ourselves on the line financially unless we were certain that it is in our best interests to be associating ourselves with him and THE GAY BOOK.

Proprietor
David Kaye

DON'T BE LEFT OUT!

HURRY, WHILE AD SPACE IS AVAILABLE

THE GAY BOOK

THE GAY COMMUNITIES DIRECTORY

CALL OUR HOTLINE TODAY

415  863  3333

OR VISIT OUR CONVENIENT OFFICE IN THE CASTRO

470 CASTRO STREET, SUITE 207
SAN FRANCISCO

DEC. 10

PRIZES



CHRISTMAS CAMP FOR SENIORS

SUTTER'S MILL CIRCUS

SATURDAY DEC. 10
11 AM - 9 PM

SUTTER'S
MILL
77 BATTERY

ALL TIPS DONATED

50¢
DONATED
FOR EACH DRINK SOLD

GAMES

FUN

A benefit for Christmas Camp for Seniors